FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-218
Thursday
12 November 1987

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-218

CONTENTS

12 November 1987

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 November Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further on Amman Extraordinary Arab Summit 4
- MENA Interviews Al-Mirghani 4
- Al-Asad Meets Libya's Jallud *[Damascus]* 4
- YAR, Iraqi Presidents Confer *[Sanaa]* 4
- Saddam Receives Kuwaiti Amir *[Baghdad]* 4
- Saddam Continues Meetings *[INA]* 5
- 'Arafat Meets Arab Leaders *[Sanaa VOP]* 5
- Kuwaiti Amir Receives Leaders *[KUNA]* 6
- Saudi Prince on Summit *[SPA]* 6
- Husayn Speaks at Closed Session *[Amman AL RA'Y 10 Nov]* 6
- Arab Leaders Continue Meetings *[Amman]* 12
- Moroccan Prince Speaks *[MAP]* 13
- AL-DUSTUR Notes Main Issues *[10 Nov]* 13
- Al-Shar', 'Aziz Hold Talks *[KUNA]* 14
- 3d Closed Summit Session Ends *[Amman]* 14
- Barre Receives Sudanese Leader *[Mogadishu]* 14
- Al-Asad, Saddam Meet 3d Time *[KUNA]* 14
- Syria Gives Terms for Support *[Beirut]* 14
- Husayn, 'Arafat Reconciled *[INA]* 15
- 'Arafat on Meeting With Husayn *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 15
- 'Arafat on Talks With Husayn *[Amman AL-RA'Y 11 Nov]* 15
- 'Blackout' of Delegation Hit *[Sanaa VOP]* 16
- 4th Closed Session Begins *[PETRA-JNA]* 16
- Summit To End 'Tomorrow' *[Amman Television]* 16
- Husayn, Al-Asad, Others Meet *[Amman Television]* 16
- More Bilateral Meetings Held *[Amman Television]* 16
- 'Differences' on Egypt Noted *[KUNA]* 17
- Al-Jumayyil Addresses Summit *[Beirut]* 17
- 4th Closed Summit Session Ends *[Amman]* 19
- Monte Carlo on Closed Session 19
- Iraq To Resume Ties With Egypt *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 19
- Ramadan on Syrian Summit Stand *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 19
- Syria Seeks Changes in UN Plan *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 20
- MENA Reports Draft Resolutions 21

ARAB AFRICA

Egypt

Iraq, GCC Countries To Reestablish Relations 22
UAE Official Arrives With Message for Mubarak 22
- UAE Restores Diplomatic Ties 22
- Mubarak Receives UAE Message *[Abu Dhabi]* 22
- Foreign Ministry Statement 22
- Official Talks Begin 12 Nov 23

King Husayn Briefs Mubarak on Arab Summit 23

Arab Summit Resolution Welcomed as 'First Step' *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 23
Ghali Denounces Israel's 'Unwarranted Practices' 23
Widespread Student Demonstrations Reported *[Al-SH'AB 3 Nov]* 23

Libya

Commentary Denounces Enniskillen IRA Bombing 24
Envoy to Rome Denies Role in Tremiti Bomb Blast *[Rome ANSA]* 24

Morocco

Hassan Gives Green March Anniversary Speech 25

Sudan

Government Studies Alleged Security Breach 27

Tunisia

National Assembly Sends Message to Ben Ali 27
Foreign Minister Rules Out Major Policy Changes *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 27
    PLO Still Welcome *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 28
Prime Minister Holds Press Conference 28
New President Receives Bourguiba's Son 29
Gulf Daily Says Party Officials Detained *[KUNA]* 29
    Detention Denied *[KUNA]* 29

Western Sahara

Communique Responds to King Hassan's Speech *[APS]* 29

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Inter-Gulf Affairs

GCC Chiefs of Staff Hold Session in Riyadh *[SPA]* 31

PDRY

Al-'Attas Pronounces Arab Summit 'Success' 31

Saudi Arabia

YAR President Arrives, Comments on Amman Summit 31
Amman Resolutions 'New Phase' in Arab Action 31

United Arab Emirates

Diplomatic Ties Reestablished With Egypt 11 Nov 32

IRAQ

- Saddam Husayn Returns From Amman Summit ... 33
  - Papers Praise Amman Resolutions ... 33
- Republic 'Ready' To Send Forces to Gulf States *[Kuwait AL-ANBA' 10 Nov]* ... 33
- Further Reportage on Gulf Combat Operations ... 33
  - 'Maritime Target' Hit 10 Nov ... 33
  - 2d 'Maritime Target' Struck ... 34
  - 3d Maritime Target 'Destroyed' ... 34
  - Communique No 2,907 Issued ... 34
  - Downing of Aircraft Denied ... 34
  - Communique No 2,908 Issued ... 34
  - Another 'Maritime Target' Hit ... 35
  - Attack on Civilians Denied ... 35
  - 3d Marine Target 'Finished Off' ... 35
  - Iranian Tanker 'Confirmed' Hit ... 35

ISRAEL

- Shamir, Peres React to Amman Summit Results *[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Nov]* ... 36
  - Shamir on Egyptian Ties ... 36
- Abu Ghazalah Remarks on Peace Favorably Received *[DAVAR 11 Nov]* ... 36
- Envoy Invited to USSR Fete as 'Signal of Thaw' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 11 Nov]* ... 36
- PRC President Meets With Ambassador to France ... 37
- Abu Nidal Group Said Emerging From Underground *[KOTERET RASHIT 11 Nov]* ... 37
  - Reconciliation With PLO Noted *[DAVAR 10 Nov]* ... 38
- PLO-Iranian Direction Forecast for Extremists *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 10 Nov]* ... 38
- Shin Bet Investigators Suspended for Perjury *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 11 Nov]* ... 39
- Rabin Comments on 'Optimal' Defense Policy ... 39
- Nisim Under Pressure for Shekel-Dollar Link *[THE JERUSALEM POST 11 Nov]* ... 39
- Knesset Rejects No-Confidence Motion on Media ... 40

LEBANON

- Bomb Blast Reported at Beirut Airport 11 Nov ... 41
  - 59 Reported Injured, 1 Killed *[RFL]* ... 41
  - Bomb Carrier Palestinian *[RFL]* ... 41
  - Group Claims Responsibility *[RFL]* ... 41
- French Engineer Hit in Assassination Attempt *[VOL]* ... 41
- Lebanese Forces Condemn Attacks on Foreigners *[RFL]* ... 41
- ICRC, Fatah Comment on Boat Hijack Off Gaza *[AFP]* ... 42
- Lebanese Forces Blame Syria for Strike Suspension *[RFL]* ... 42
- Palestinian Source Denies Withdrawal From Sidon *[RFL]* ... 42
- Al-Jumayyil-Al-Asad Reconciliation Efforts Fail ... 42
- Al-Jumayyil, Delegation Return From Amman ... 42
- Junblatt Distributes Memo at Soviet Celebration *[VOM]* ... 43
- Soviet Delegation Arrives To Mark Anniversary ... 43
- SSNP Leader Congratulates Gorbachev *[VOM]* ... 43
- Editor on AL-SHIRA' Policy, Hostages *[London AL-MAJALLAH 4-10 Nov]* ... 43

SYRIA

- Al-Asad, Delegation Return From Amman Summit ... 45
  - Press Cited on Summit Results ... 45

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Report on Najibullah Speech to Party Activists 46
Commentary Previews Reagan-Gorbachev Talks *[KABUL NEW TIMES]* 48
Statement on Journalists' Deaths, Media Visits 48
Pakistan Claims of Border Shelling Rejected 48
30 Soviet-Afghan Troops Killed in Herat 7 Nov *[IRNA]* 49

Bangladesh

Reportage on 'Siege' of Dhaka Events 49
    14 Dead in Protests *[AFP]* 49
    Ershad Comments on Protest 50
    Press Note Details Protest 50
    Strikes Called for 11-12 Nov *[AFP]* 51
    Situation in Dhaka 11 Nov *[Delhi]* 51
    Police Arrest Begum Khaleda Zia *[AFP]* 51
    Begum Khaleda Zia Released *[Delhi]* 51
    Sheikh Hasina Detained *[Delhi]* 52
    Ershad on Opposition 52
    Strike Continues for 3d Day *[AFP]* 52
    5 Killed in 12 Nov Clashes *[AFP]* 53
    Further Casualties Reported *[Delhi]* 53

India

Calls for Cease-fire With LTTE Rejected *[AFP]* 53
Pakistani Support for Terrorists Alleged 54
Soviet Prime Minister To Visit India 20-25 Nov 54

Iran

President, Officials Meet With Khomeyni 54
    Khamene'i Speaks 54
    Khomeyni Marks Prophet's Birthday 55
Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Arab Summit 57
    Musavi on Summit Results 57
Tehran Comments on 'Defeated' Amman Summit 57
AP Cited on Chemical Tanker Attack in Gulf 58
Musavi: U.S. Fleet 'Received Blows' in Gulf 59
Weinberger Resignation Seen as Policy Defeat 59
Musavi Chairs 11 Nov Cabinet Session 59
Montazeri Addresses Qom Gathering on Islam 59
    Urges Defense of Revolution 60
Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue 60
    Warplanes Bomb Khuzestan 60
    Communique No 3,016 60
    IRGC Shells Iraqi Targets 61
    Kurds Ambush Iraqi Troops 61
    Communique No 3,017 61
    Iraq Bombs 'Nonmilitary' Target 61
    Naval Forces Down Plane 61
    Kurds Repel Iraqi Attack 62

Pakistan

Rawalpindi Hotel Bombed 12 Nov; 9 Wounded *[AFP]* 62
Foreign Office Denies Involvement in Gulf 62
Spokesman on Indian Remarks on Nuclear Program 62

Soviets Said Willing To Offer $4 Billion in Aid *[THE MUSLIM 22 Oct]* ... 63
PRC Vice Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit ... 63
  Received by Foreign Secretary ... 63

Sri Lanka

Limited Tamil Autonomy Bill Protested ... 64
  Agriculture Minister Resigns *[AFP]* ... 64
  Thousands Demonstrate *[AFP]* ... 64
Colombo Bombing Death Toll Rises to 28 ... 64
Police-JVP Battles Result in Deaths, Arrests ... 65
Indian Army Kills 25 in Jaffna Area Mop-up ... 65
LTTE Offers To Release Captured Indians *[AFP]* ... 66

12 November Middle East and South Asia Review

LD121423 [Editorial Report]

Arab Summit Conference

Final Session—Amman television provided live coverage of the closing session 11 November, in which Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi read out the conference "final statement" and Jordan's King Husayn delivered a concluding speech. Noting that the Iran-Iraq war and the Gulf situation had topped the summit agenda, the conference statement referred to the Arab leaders' "dissatisfaction" with Iran's insistence on continuing the war and on "going too far in provoking and threatening the Arabian Gulf states." The statement "condemned" Iran for its occupation of Iraqi territory and for its "procrastination" in accepting UN Resolution 598, adding that Iran should accept and implement the UN resolution "in accordance with the sequence of its clauses." The conferees expressed "solidarity" with Iraq and "appreciation" for the latter's acceptance of Resolution 598 and for its response to peace initiatives. The Arab leaders also expressed "solidarity" and "support" for Kuwait in confronting Iranian "aggression," and they denounced "the bloody criminal incidents perpetrated by Iranians in the Holy Mosque of Mecca."

On the Arab-Israeli conflict, the final statement stressed the need to bolster Arab capability, intrinsic strength, and solidarity in order to "confront the Israeli danger." The conference reaffirmed Arab support for the convocation of an international peace conference under UN auspices and the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO. The Arab leaders also expressed "concern" about the Lebanese situation and said they will make efforts to help Lebanon overcome its crisis and restore its sovereignty and welfare. As for relations with Egypt, the conferees resolved that diplomatic relations between any Arab League member state and Egypt is "a sovereign act decided by each state in accordance with its constitution and laws."

In his closing speech, King Husayn told the Arab leaders that they had emerged from the conference "having overcome the complexes, residues, and faults of the near past," adding that they were successful in substituting "higher pan-Arab interests" for the "narrow" gains and benefits of individual states. He advised them to prevent differences by continuing to hold periodic, regular meetings on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

Relations With Egypt—In an official statement carried by WAKH, the UAE announced its decision to restore full diplomatic relations with Egypt as of 11 November, asserting that this decision will help bolster Egypt's efforts in support of the Arab nation and will contribute toward Egypt's assumption of its "leading role." A UAE envoy subsequently arrived in Cairo and gave President Husni Mubarak a message from the UAE president, MENA disclosed.

Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan told the *Jordan Times* that Iraq will likewise restore relations with Egypt in the wake of the extraordinary summit conference. Diplomatic circles cited by Radio Monte Carlo predicted that all the GCC states, Iraq, and Morocco will resume relations with Egypt. Regarding the summit debate on the issue, KUNA noted that Syria, Libya, and the PDRY opposed Egypt's return to the Arab League, while Algeria and Tunisia voiced "reservations." All other countries supported Egypt's return to the Arab League.

PLO-Jordanian Relations—An official Iraqi source cited by INA stated that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn succeeded in "restoring amity" between King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during a 10 November meeting at Saddam Husayn's place of residence. 'Arafat told reporters after the meeting with King Husayn that it was "more than a reconciliation," adding that they "agreed to coordinate for the sake of our people and our just cause," according to the *Jordan Times*.

Syrian-Iraqi Relations—Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Saddam Husayn achieved "reconciliation with all the sense of the word," King Husayn asserted during an 11 November press conference broadcast by Amman television. For Iraq's part, Taha Yasin Ramadan welcomed the "positive" change in Syria's position at the summit, describing the warmth in the Al-Asad-Saddam Husayn talks as "unthinkable before," according to the *Jordan Times*. However, a Syrian spokesman cited by Damascus radio dismissed reports that the two leaders held bilateral talks in Amman, stressing that they only met in wider meetings within the summit framework.

Syrian Comment—A Syrian press editorial reviewed by Damascus radio 12 November claimed that the summit "highlighted the Palestine question as the Arabs' first cause," viewing this as confirmation of "the soundness" of Syrian policy. The radio's reportage on conference resolutions provided most detail on a resolution about the Arab-Israeli conflict, giving less weight to resolutions on the Gulf war.

Libyan Criticism—Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud dissociated Libya from the summit resolutions in a statement cited by Tripoli television, asserting that they were "prepared in Washington in advance." Stressing the Jamahiriyah's refusal to implement the joint Arab defense pact against Iran, the leader of the Libyan delegation indicated that the conference resolutions should have been directed against the United States and the "Zionist enemy," not against Iran. Jallud also affirmed Libya's opposition to the decision to sanction the restoration of relations with Egypt, asserting that those restoring relations with Egypt are traitors who are "universalizing Camp David."

Other Reaction—Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hosayn Musavi viewed the summit as "another defeat" for the Arabs because its decisions were "dictated" by the United States, IRNA reported.

In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir described the renewal of relations between Egypt and other Arab countries as a "positive step," IDF radio reported. Nevertheless, he maintained that the Arabs have "not changed their stands" against Israel, according to *The Jerusalem Post*. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said he believes the summit resolutions do "not leave the door closed" on the peace process, the *Post* noted.

Gulf Conflict

Battle Reports—Iraqi warplanes continued their attacks on merchant shipping in the Gulf, hitting two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast 10 November, two more such targets on 11 November, and a fifth target on 12 November, according to military statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio and INA. The radio added that, according to Gulf shipping sources, a Greek-registered Iranian oil tanker was one of the vessels hit 11 November. A military spokesman cited by INA denied a report that an Iraqi warplane was shot down over a southern Iranian island 10 November. Tehran radio cited AP reports that a Panamanian-registered tanker was attacked 11 November off Umm al-Quwayn in the southern Gulf. According to IDF radio, the Japanese-owned vessel was set afire by "Iranian missile boats."

Regarding other action against economic targets, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi aircraft carried out two strikes which destroyed "selected" targets at the Pazanan oil fields 11 November and dealt a "violent blow" to the Omidiyeh power station the previous day. According to IRNA, Iraqi bombing of nonmilitary targets in Khuzestan caused damage and civilian casualties; however, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA promptly denied the accusation.

A communique carried by IRNA 11 November noted that Iranian artillery continued to shell enemy positions and installations in the southern and western fronts. A military headquarters located in the Sarchinar cement factory, west of Al-Sulaymaniyah, was destroyed by artillery fire, Tehran radio reported.

Military Cooperation—Addressing a 1-day Riyadh meeting of GCC military officials, the chief of staff of the UAE Armed Forces praised the strength of military cooperation among the GCC states and noted that, in these challenging times, the GCC Armed Forces are ready to defend "land and honor," SPA reported. On the subject of GCC defense, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz told the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anba'* that his country is ready to send troops to help Kuwait or any other Gulf state in confronting Iranian aggression.

Lebanon

Bombing—Five people were killed and 70 were wounded by a bomb explosion at Beirut International Airport 11 November, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The bomb exploded in a bag carried by a young woman who died in the blast. A group calling itself the "Lebanese Liberation Organization" claimed responsibility for the bombing in a telephone call to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Attack on Frenchman—A French engineer working in Lebanon was shot in the head by gunmen in the Juniyah area 11 November, the Voice of Lebanon reported. The man was taken to a hospital in critical condition and underwent a 3-hour operation.

Hamiyah Denial—'Aql Hamiyah denied reports that he has resigned from the Amal Movement and that he is in dispute with Amal leader Nabih Birri, according to Beirut radio.

Tunisia

Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri told a press conference in Amman that the new government does not plan to restore relations with Egypt although it would like to preserve good relations with Cairo, the *Jordan Times* reported 11 November. Mestiri also noted that the new administration plans to speed up the "process of rapprochement" with Tunisia's Maghreb neighbors.

In remarks cited by Tunis radio 10 November, Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche declared that President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's government will stress reform and development in both the political and economic sectors. Baccouche also revealed that "seven or eight" officials of the Bourguiba regime are under arrest, KUNA reported. The Tunisian House of Representatives issued a statement expressing support for Ben Ali and pledging to continue to work for enhanced cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of government, Tunis radio reported.

President Ben Ali received Habib Bourguiba Jr for talks 11 November during which they discussed the changeover, according to a statement issued by the former president's son and carried on Tunis radio.

Libya

Enniskillen 'Terrorism'—The JANA international affairs editor condemned the 8 November bombing in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, as "terrorism" rather than "legitimate revolutionary action" and advised that such "confrontation with the masses" should be avoided. The Libyan ambassador to Italy "decisively denied" accusations that his country was responsible for a recent explosion that damaged a lighthouse in the Tremiti Islands and declared that Libya is against such actions which result in civilian casualties "anywhere in the world," JANA reported. Libya also reiterated its call for a UN-sponsored international conference to define terrorism, JANA reported.

Accord With Algeria—The public utilities secretary and the Algerian energy minister signed an agreement 10 November providing for the formation of joint entities in the fields of petrochemicals and fertilizer as well as natural gas transport, JANA reported.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Lawyers—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi met with participants in a 2-day meeting of the Permanent Bureau of the Arab Lawyers Union, JANA reported.

DRA

Denial of Border Incidents—The DRA Foreign Ministry rejected as "baseless and untruthful" Pakistani charges that Afghan artillery shelled various border locations 6, 7, and 22 October and that the Afghan Air Force attacked the Arandu area in Chitral 25 October, Kabul radio reported 10 November.

Political Parties Law—The Revolutionary Council Presidium endorsed a 10 November decree providing for the formation and registration of political parties, Kabul radio reported. The text of the decree broadcast on the radio also stipulates the procedure by which any party that violates "DRA basic principles and DRA laws" may be dissolved.

Iran

In remarks broadcast by Tehran radio 10 November, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni praised the Koran as a book of "jurisprudence" which contains wisdom on every issue, current and future. Khomeyni, who was speaking on the occasion of the anniversary of Muhammad's birthday, called for following the imams' example of struggling to "create justice in the world." Islamic religious figures must not just restrict themselves to preaching and studying in the mosque, but they should be "involved in governing matters and political issues." Muslims should wage war and defend Islam according to Muhammad's example, Khomenyi stressed.

In 9 November remarks cited by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri declared that if Muslims had followed the Koran more strictly, their "culture, politics, economy, and everything else" would not be "in the hands of foreigners, world blasphemy, and their puppets." Montazeri singled out Saudi King Fahd for harsh criticism as an example of a person who would not rule if Muslims "acted in accordance with the Koran." Montazeri subsequently urged all Iranians to prepare to defend Islam against enemies who have united to keep Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in power, according to remarks cited by IRNA 11 November.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further on Amman Extraordinary Arab Summit

MENA Interviews Al-Mirghani

NC081537 Cairo MENA in English 1515 GMT 8 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov. 8 (MENA)—Sudanese Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani welcomed today the return of Egypt to assume its natural position in the Arab family. Interviewed today by MENA correspondent here, Al-Mirghani said Egypt's return to the Arab fold gives power to the Arabs as its presence in the Organization of Islamic Conference gave power to the Muslim world. Sudan, he said, will put forward an initiative to this effect, noting that he discussed this with King Husayn during their meeting yesterday. He also discussed with King Husayn ways to make the summit a success, he said, noting that his country will start mediation efforts to help unify the Arab ranks.

Al-Mirghani called on bringing the Gulf war to a halt and to put into effect the UN Resolution 598 rpt 598, adding that his country supports the Gulf Cooperation Council and denounces Iranian aggressions against Kuwait or any Arab state. He also called on maintaining unity of Lebanon adding that his country supports right of the Palestinian people to restore their lands under the Palestine Liberation Organization as their sole and legitimate representative.

Al-Mirghani had contacts yesterday and today with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, President Haydar al-'Attas, of South Yemen and Chadli Bendjedid, of Algeria.

Al-Asad Meets Libya's Jallud

JN091917 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Recorded dispatch from Damascus Radio correspondent at extraordinary Arab summit in Amman]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: Greetings from Amman. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad at 1715 today met with His Majesty King Husayn at the residence of the head of the delegations attending the extraordinary Arab summit. They discussed the state of talks and contacts between the delegations participating in the conference.

At 1515 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad met with Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, Libya's Revolutionary Command Council member and head of his country's delegation to the summit. They talked about items on the agenda of the conference and the efforts being made to produce a stand furthering Arab interests.

A closed session of the delegation heads was held at around 1100.

The Syrian Arab delegation's spokesman has said that Syria has always called for Arab summits and other Arab meetings to discuss pan-Arab issues. Syria, he added, contributed to the efforts that led to the convening of the Amman summit. President al-Asad came to Amman to help make the summit successful in tackling pan-Arab issues and to issue resolutions directing Arab energies toward the fateful battle with the Israeli enemy, in keeping with supreme Arab interests, the spokesman said.

Ladies and gentlemen, greetings from the media team accompanying the president in Amman.

YAR, Iraqi Presidents Confer

JN091849 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, secretary general of the General People's Congress, yesterday evening visited his brother, President Saddam Husayn of the sisterly republic of Iraq, at his place of residence in Amman. They discussed issues of common concern and Arab developments, notably the Iraq-Iran war. The meeting took place during the current extraordinary Arab summit in Amman.

The Iraqi president praised the principled stands of the YAR, led by President Salih, in supporting Arab causes, standing by brothers, and working for joint Arab action. President Salih reiterated the YAR's continuing support for sisterly Iraq, defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The meeting was attended by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister, Standing Committee member; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member; Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minster for domestic affairs; Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for affairs of Yemeni unity; and the YAR ambassador in Amman. On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Saddam Receives Kuwaiti Amir

JN092033 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2004 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, at his place of residence in Amman this evening. The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, adviser to his highness the amir; and Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for Cabinet affairs.

Saddam Continues Meetings

JN101138 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, 10 Nov (INA)—On the third day of the extraordinary Arab summit, President Saddam Husayn resumed meetings with kings, presidents, amirs, and heads of Arab delegations participating in the summit to discuss issues presented to the summit and ways to bolster Arab solidarity. At his place of residence this morning, President Saddam Husayn received Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, head of the Libyan delegation. Attending the meeting were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Colonel Husayn Kamil, official in charge of the military industries organization; and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

President Saddam Husayn also received Mahmoud Mestiri, Tunisian foreign minister and head of Tunisia's delegation to the Arab summit, this morning. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Col Husayn Kamil, official in charge of the military industries organization, attended the meeting.

The president also received Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah at his place of residence this morning. Attending the meeting were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minster, and Shaykh Muhammad Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister.

'Arafat Meets Arab Leaders

JN091945 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Within the framework of his meetings with the Arab leaders who are attending the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Amman, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. During the meeting they discussed developments in the Palestinian question both in the Arab and international areas, as well as the current efforts being made on more than one level to secure favorable circumstances to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East.

They also discussed the organized annihilation campaign by the Zionist entity against our Palestinian Arab people in the occupied homeland and our people's camps in Lebanon. The two sides also touched on the dangers threatening the fraternal Arab countries in the Arabian Gulf region as a result of the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the concentration of foreign fleets in Arabian Gulf waters. They also viewed the need to implement Security Council Resolution 598 calling for an end to the Gulf war. Brother President Chadli Bendjedid stressed Algeria's firm support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, until they establish an independent state and regain their national rights.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar then met with his brother President [of the PDRY] Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas. They discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian question both in the Arab and international arenas in light of current Arab and international efforts to secure the necessary conditions for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by the PLO on an equal footing with other parties. Abu 'Ammar also reviewed with President al-'Attas the organized annihilation campaign by the Zionist enemy against our Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland and Lebanon's camps. The sides also focused on ways and efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war and implement Security Council Resolution No 598 on this issue.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also met with His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, to discuss Arab efforts to strengthen solidarity to find favorable circumstances for our Arab nation to confront the serious challenges facing it at this stage. Talks also centered on the need to exert every effort to stop the Iraq-Iran war and implement Security Council Resolution 598 calling for an end to the war. Abu 'Ammar also reviewed with His Highness Shaykh Zayid the latest developments in the Palestine question both in the Arab and international arenas.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar then met with His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Bahrain. They discussed current efforts to reinforce Arab solidarity in the face of fateful challenges to the Arab nation. Abu 'Ammar reviewed with his highness the latest developments in the Palestine question both in the Arab and international aenas, especially the annihilation campaign against our people in occupied Palestine and Lebanon's camps. Talks also centered on the Iraq-Iran war and the need to exert every possible effort to stop this war.

Abu 'Ammar and the accompanying Palestinian delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman met with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese delegation last night. Talks centered on current efforts to bolster Arab solidarity to confront the fateful challenges facing our Arab nation. During the meeting, Abu 'Ammar expressed thanks to the Lebanese president for renewing Palestinian passports and improving living conditions in the Palestinian camps. Abu 'Ammar also reviewed with the Lebanese president the latest developments in the Palestine question both in the Arab and international arenas. They also touched on the dangers resulting from the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the Iranian leadership's intransigence and rejection of all the peaceful Iraqi, Arab, and international initiatives to stop this war.

Kuwaiti Amir Receives Leaders

LD101108 Kuwait KUNA in English 1012 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov 10 (KUNA)—H.H. the amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah received at his residence here before noon today Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre. H.H. also received separately Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Premier 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Moroccan Crown Prince Mohammed.

Saudi Prince on Summit

LD101145 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, 10 Nov (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, has declared that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of the custodian of the two holy Mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, is earnestly working in support of the Arab nation for all its issues. In an interview granted to chief editors of Kuwaiti and Saudi papers last night at his residence in Amman, his highness said:

The custodian of the two holy mosques has directed me toward what he sees as attaining the supreme Arab interest at the Arab summit and I beg Almighty God to assist him in shouldering his responsibilities toward the closing of Arab ranks.

His highness said the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is optimistic about the results of the emergency Arab summit in Amman. This optimism, he added, stems from the spirit of the sense of responsibility of the leaders of the Arab countries vis-a-vis the issues of the Arab nation and from the enlightened realization of the Kingdom and its sister Arab countries of the gravity and size of the problems the Arab nation is facing, particularly at the political level.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-Aziz stressed that both Iraq and Syria have an Arab history and civilization which must not be forgotten or left to non-Arabs and pointed out the importance of normalizing relations between the sister countries Iraq and Syria for the good of the Arabs. His highness pointed out that GCC member countries are cohesive and will remain cohesive after the current emergency Arab summit in Amman. He said that such cohesiveness, free from any external influences, can increase the strength, cooperation, and solidarity of the GCC countries.

In reply to a question regarding Egypt's return to the Arab League, his highness said: I would like to reiterate what the late King 'Abd al-'Aziz once said—we cannot do without Egypt and Egypt cannot do without us.

His highness lauded the preparations made by Jordan, under the leadership of King Husayn, at the Arab summit to arrive at a common Arab perception. He said: The conference is succeeding and it pleases King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in particular, and the Arab peoples in general, to see this conference being held at the level of our aspirations and they hope, God willing, it will realize these aspirations.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stressed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from the standpoint of its sovereignty over its territories and its mission in serving the holy places, does not permit any practices that would harm its security or the security of pilgrims. He said: We do not permit any state to discuss the question of pilgrims, but we welcome pilgrims who come to perform their rites without carrying out any erroneous practices. In this respect his his highness cites the words of God Almighty: Let there be no obscenity, nor wickedness, nor wrangling during the pilgrimage.

His highness was asked about the attitude of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia should Iran attack Kuwait. He said: The Kingdom is at the forefront of the defenders of Kuwait. If something detestable like that happened to Kuwait, God forbid, you would see our leader—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz—at Safat Square [in Kuwait city].

Asked if the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia intends to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, his highness said such matters will be determined at the appropriate time.

His highness also talked about clearing the atmosphere at the Amman emergency Arab summit. In reply to a question on preparations for holding the next Arab summit, he said "the question concerning the next summit and its date is being discussed with the Kingdon of Saudi Arabia."

His highness stressed the success of his U.S. visit and pointed out that the topics discussed during the visit had been announced through Saudi media.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz also stated that the Amman Arab summit had discussed the Lebanese problem and numerous issues which constitute the top priorities for joint Arab action. This had been done to achieve a unified perception whereby good intentions prevail and the magnitude of responsibility would be sensed in both the present and the future phases.

Husayn Speaks at Closed Session

JN101200 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Nov 87 p 2

["Text" of speech by Jordan's King Husayn at the first closed session of the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman on 8 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to the Lord of the worlds. May prayers and peace be upon the last of the messengers, Muhammad, the faithful Arab prophet. Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, dear brother leaders:

A short while ago the Jordanian Arab people and I had the honor of welcoming you to Amman within the sight and hearing of our nation, which is hopeful about our meeting, and also of the world at large, which is following and observing our work. And now I have the added honor of sitting among you and addressing you at this meeting which, with God's blessings, is being held at the highest levels of responsibility. We have come together today after having been worn down by differences and incapacitated by bewilderment and also after our vision has narrowed and matters have become so confused that we are no longer capable of drawing a dividing line between what is deemed to be legitimate at the level of the state and what is required on the pan-Arab level and between what is strategic and tactical and what is ideological and political.

We have come together after the seeds of evil, separatism, and disarray have reared their ugly head in most Arab states under a guise suited to the environment in which they thrive. We have come together after our very fabric has been sorely tested, our structure cracked, our national strength badly eroded, and our enemies and neighbors have grown in avarice and defiance. Though geographically distant, the great powers have pursued interests and exercised their tendency for hegemony at our door. We have come together at a time of diverse inclinations and disparate visions. Our peoples, who are in a state of confusion and utter loss, have almost lost confidence in themselves and their identity, disavowed their history and principles, and begun searching for security in the caves of their enemies or fleeing from their situation.

We have come together after we have become accustomed to raising the walls of the state at the expense of our pan-Arab security so that differences in viewpoints have become a source of disparity, incrimination, and warfare instead of becoming an arena for continuous dialogue. But we have also come together after this cherished summit has become an antidote for our peoples and friends and a disturbing move for our enemies and those who benefit from our divisions. We have also come together when Arab solidarity was about to become something of the past and joint Arab nation no more than a future mirage. I say after all that, and more than that, we are meeting in a summit conference which has been described as extraordinary. And it is indeed that. It is extraordinary because of what is expected of it and also in view of the backdrop against which it is being held.

As for the expectations, it suffices to recall that the last ordinary summit had to tackle only one issue: the Arab-Israeli conflict. There were only three frontline states then: Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. Today, our summit faces an additional issue no less pressing or hazardous than the first, which itself continues to be unresolved. This is the Gulf war, which has dictated this meeting, a war that has so expanded and grown in complexity as to make Arab states in the Gulf a new frontline facing an Iranian regime bent on exporting its revolution through a continuation and, indeed, a diversification of war. Just as there are Jordanian-Palestinian, Syrian, and Lebanese occupied territories, there are now also Iraqi occupied territories. Just as there are a number of Arab states confronting Israel's expansionist designs and seeking aid and support from their brothers, there are now also other Arab states facing the Iranian regime's designs and arrogance and seeking support from their brothers. We must always remember that Arab territories are indivisible as is the will to protect them.

In addition, there is Lebanon—desperate, hungry, and torn by internecine conflict while its territories in the south are occupied. There is also the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia as well as the secessionist movement in the Sudan. They all manifest territorial ambitions by non-Arab states aided and encouraged by great powers seeking a foothold in the Arab region and its periphery.

As for the backdrop against which our conference is being held, it is extraordinary by its very nature. Whereas all previous summits had the objective of adopting unified Arab stands on a set of specific problems within the framework of a minimal level of Arab accord, our summit today does not enjoy even that minimal level of accord. Its task, therefore, is twofold: to achieve pan-Arab reconciliation and then each an accord on unified stands. Frankly, we will not be satisfied with only achieving a minimal level of pan-Arab accord. Our consciences will not be freed by looking for this minimal level when the desired objective is to agree on unified stands to remedy the situation in which we find ourselves. It is my hope that our meetings and deliberations in this summit—which carries the name of the summit of reconciliation and accord [qimmat al-wifaq wa al-ittifaq], which is what every Arab would like to see embodied in our unanimous resolutions, God willing—will end with resolutions based on confidence and harmony among brothers, devotion to the nation, and concern for its interests as well as the interests of its coming generations.

I do not believe I am being over optimistic in saying that the mere fact that we have agreed to hold this blessed conference indicates that we have already embarked on a new phase of incipient national conciliation. This grows out of having been jolted by the bitter truth and disillusioned of the possibility of achieving national security and self-development without recourse to their pillars: pan-Arab security and the integration of Arab resources and capabilities.

My brothers, dear Arab leaders, if the summit conference has a dual task requiring an extraordinary collective effort, it is because of the dual nature of the problem we face which also requires an extraordinary frankness. On the one hand, the problem has an Arab aspect concerned with the Arab order and with inter-Arab relations within the framework of our regional institution. On the other hand, there is the aspect of relations with others, of our conflicts, and of cooperation with others. As shown in the recent past as well as by present realities, the two aspects are interrelated and indivisible. The world states have realized this fact and employed it as a primary feature of their interaction with us based on considerations of profit and loss.

On issues where we have been able to demonstrate unity and cohesiveness, they have been quite accommodating of our legitimate demands and policies. The behavior of these states during and after the 1973 October war is the best proof of this. Whenever Arab solidarity has weakened, however, the outside world, though continuing to interact with us due to our strategic position, our resources, and the crucial importance of our region to international security, has tended to revert to bilateral interaction with each Arab state, thus bypassing our collective will and common concerns. As a result of accepting this fact, we have become attuned to this mode of interaction to a point where we have failed to discern the red lines separating bilateral issues from pan-Arab concerns. Just as some parties have achieved their interests through such an approach, our nation's enemies have been able to seize their opportunity to seek expansion, hegemony, and new positions on the ground. Increasingly, pan-Arab concerns have given way to bilateralism and the foundations of joint Arab action have been shaken. As a result, the strategic balance between the Arab nation and its allied enemies has been seriously disrupted.

When our national security was put to the test once again, the fragility of our position and the absence of any true cohesiveness quickly became apparent to all. We have come to be perceived by others as ineffectual, even though we have called for peace, as shown by Iraq's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598. However, Iran is seen as a power to woo despite its insistence on waging war. In the same vein, Iran has also come to be regarded as having a greater strategic weight than all the Arabs together for the simple reason that it is one state speaking with a single voice, while the Arabs are several states with several representative voices and conflicting positions and stands serving only to neutralize each other. As the world awaits the outcome of our deliberations, this perception prevails. Will we emerge united, thus showing Iran and the world an Arab nation adopting a unified stand? What is this stand? Or will we leave Iraq to defend Arab soil alone in the face of a regime which does not conceal its objectives? Are we aware of the dimensions of Iran's objectives and their political impact on our nation's security, resources, identity, and its future Arab charter?

As for the other flank of Arab Asia, where our nation has sacrificed so dearly and some continue to do so, the Israeli occupation of Arab territories has entered its 21st year. Twenty years have passed since Security Council Resolution 242, 14 since Resolution 338, and 40 since the Palestinian diaspora. Yet Israel is still deeply entrenched and the Palestinians have yet to gain their legitimate national rights. Has any true Arab weight been brought to bear on all of this? How effective has it been at the international level? More importantly, do we regard the Palestine question as a concern for individual states or as a pan-Arab question? And if we must make such a distinction, where do we draw the line?

A decision must be made. Sooner or later, the ambiguity must be resolved. We simply cannot continue to oscillate between the two concepts without a thorough examination or proper clarification. If the question is purely one pertaining to individual states, then Jordan's problem becomes quite simple, in essence not exceeding the occupation of a few square kilometers of Jordanian territory in Wadi 'Arabah and the northern segment of the Jordan Valley. I can also permit myself to say that the problem for Syria and Lebanon would also be relatively straightforward, since any agreement to bring about Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian heights and southern Lebanon is far easier to achieve than a solution to the Palestine question and the withdrawal of Israel from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The question then becomes: If the Palestine question pertains to individual states, why should Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon continue to sustain a situation of protracted attrition? Why should they sit and wait? And in whose interest is this situation? If on the other hand, the question is a pan-Arab one, as indeed it is, where are our collective efforts and pan-Arab commitment? What support is there for those states adjacent to the danger zone? In terms of destiny and location, these states are fully aware of the nature of this danger. Because of their national and pan-Arab responsibilities, they have to contend with it. Where, however, is the material and moral support which gives these states the ability to effectively confront the Zionist threat on the ground as well as in the international arena?

Brother leaders, there is a relationship between the two major problems: the Arab-Israeli conflict on the one hand and the Iraq-Iran war on the other. This relationship has not been created by imagination or devised by illusion. It is a real relationship which has been proven by facts and events and intensified by the continued Gulf war. The fact that Israel is helping Iran to acquire arms is no longer a matter of conjecture. Similarly, Israel's motives are no longer hidden. It suffices to recall the strategy laid down by Ben Gurion, the founder of Israel, vis-a-vis some non-Arab states in the Middle East, which called for close cooperation with Iran and Ethiopia for the simple reason that these two countries had problems with and regional ambitions against neighboring Arab countries. This is exactly Israel's case with the Arab states.

We should not, of course, forget Israel's exploitation of Iraq's preoccupation with the Gulf war to destroy the Iraqi nuclear reactor, nor forget its desire to deplete Gulf resources in a war to which Israel is not a party and to exhaust Iraq in such a war in its capacity as the strategic depth of Syria and Jordan. The relationship between Israel and the present Iranian regime is not dictated only by their common objective, since both of them aim at expanding at the expense of the Arab territory, but also by a common method of action. Each of them is exploiting religion to mobilize its people, justify its expansionist aggression, and establish precedents which allow it to continue its aggression.

Recent events in the holy city of Mecca, contrived by Iranian pilgrims during the pilgrimage season, are no different in form, essence, or political objectives from the recent events contrived by Jewish fundamentalists in Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles. Both employ religion to serve politics and not the opposite as they claim. I am sure you are aware of this sinister policy which continues to seek an outlet for itself and create an environment for itself in every Arab country through some politicians and through the support of the Iranian regime or other suspect organizations whose leaderships have been established in Western capitals. Every Arab country had its own experience and problem in this regard.

In addition, we must keep in mind that for many years now the United States has been unable to pursue an independent policy in the Middle East. The only constant in drawing up the policy of this superpower is the Zionist influence on the U.S. decisionmakers whoever they might be. This decision was and continues to be taken in accordance with the interests of Israel, the enemy whose strategy is known to us all. It is a strategy based on shaking the Arab order and emptying it of its contents in an effort to crumble our pan-Arab security.

My brother leaders, as we face Zionist expansionism, the Gulf war, and other challenges and threats to our Arab territory, identity, and system, we find that impotence is overtaking our Arab League and its various bodies and charters. The Arab League is actually a reflection of ourselves. It is the best mirror that reflects the reality of our Arab system and pan-Arab intentions. If the Arab League is in such a condition it is because we have made it so. If we want it to be different we should change our attitudes toward the Arab order which it represents. We can regain its failing credibility by adopting and implementing serious resolutions and by honoring our commitments toward it. Let us keep in mind the fact that self-flagellation will not rescue the Arab League. Failure to meet our financial obligations or revise the Arab League's statutes and make them more effective will only further weaken it. This will also, wittingly or unwittingly, serve our nation's enemies who are seeking to disturb the Arab order and dismember the nation.

In this context, I cannot but wonder about the status of our big sister Egypt. How much longer will it remain far from us, especially since realities, logic, and duty make it incumbent upon us to bolster the pillars of the Arab system and rectify the strategic balance of which Egypt constitutes a basic element. To my mind, this is now possible in view of the present Egyptian leadership's stands toward Arab issues, foremost of which is the Arab-Israeli conflict, and its commitment to the Collective Arab Defense Pact, as announced by the brother Egyptian president in a speech opening the People's Assembly after his election to a new presidential term.

What breaks the heart and calls for sorrow and concern is that the Arab League, the oldest regional organization in this world since World War II and the one most having the components of cohesion, development, and survival, has sunk into disarray at a time when the world is moving toward regional blocs, multilateral institutional cooperation, and integration between resources and capabilities in every region in the search for a comprehensive development and entrenchment of the pillars of regional security. Where is the common Arab market? Where is Arab food security? Where is economic integration? What has happened to the Arab development decade? Where is Arab information and cultural order? Where is the Collective Arab Defense Pact?

Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, the restoration of confidence and credibility to the Arab order and our regional organization is a basic prerequisite for creating an appropriate climate for joint Arab action and entrenching pan-Arab security with its political, military, and economic dimensions. If this is true, our ability to subject problems and challenges to objective analysis and to arrive at a clear solution to these problems and challenges constitute the way to achieve this prerequisite. The restoration of Arab solidarity cannot be achieved just by preaching. It also requires a firm adherence to our objective as well as an enlightened exercise of policies to achieve this objective and to consolidate institutional Arab action. In other words, action should be in accordance with the principles and charters of Arab solidarity both as a living example and as a means of entrenching its bases and pillars.

As a result of contacts and dialogue with most of the brother Arab leaders during the last few years, I can say with confidence that we are all agreed on the causes and symptoms of current fragility and retrogression. In fact, our present meeting at this extraordinary summit is a true manifestation of this consensus. Unfortunately, however, we are not in agreement on the cure. In the discrepancy between the two lies the current Arab dilemma. Yet unless the dilemma is resolved, the imbalance will continue and joint Arab action will continue to be a mirage. Common sense requires that we place higher Arab interests above all considerations of personal pain. We must completely forget this pain. Only God Almighty and our beloved nation will outlast us. Let us remember that and pray to God to guide us along the path that most pleases Him. Let us with joined hands and clean hearts put the past behind us for good. Let us with clear consciences and Arab will achieve a consensus on the means and the stand. This, in short, is why we are meeting in Amman today.

With similar frankness, allow me to lay down before you my view of the causes underlying our failure to achieve unified stands toward the major problems and challenges that we face and ways to deal with them:

First, the first obstacle lies in bilateral differences, which usually grow out of political disagreement and occasionally lead to punishing the peoples of the two concerned countries. This results from punitive or vengeful measures undertaken by one government against another. In the normal course of events, differences of this nature should be kept within the framework of the direct and continuous brotherly dialogue until the issues are resolved. If our conference is to succeed, we must be prepared to turn over a new leaf to achieve reconciliation, which, with God's help, will be a springboard toward consensus on ways to confront the common threat to Arab territories and to Arab order itself. In other words, we must strive to reach an Arab consensus and achieve an effective Arab counterweight through objective analysis coupled with a determination to transcend differences.

Second, another problem is a narrow pan-Arab visiion resulting from the preoccupation of each Arab state with its own development, security, and defense concerns. This led to a gradual loss of sight of the close confluence of the individual strength of each Arab country and pan-Arab security. It has also resulted in diminished concern for and demotion of pan-Arab issues to the lowest level of state priority, except in cases of a directly perceived connection between a particular state and an outside threat. In this respect, however, I view our meeting at a summit level as an auspicious omen of our resolve, God willing, to attach to pan-Arab issues the importance they deserve and to give them the place they deserve in our consciences and minds.

Third, the unjustified exaggeration in the implementation of the principle of profit and loss in dealing with pan-Arab issues. This is coupled with the erroneous assumption of a direct proportionality between the factors of loss and involvement in anything that is not strictly a concern of the individual state. In this aspect, we are like those who have neglected to fortify their city defenses because they felt secure behind their own walls, entirely losing sight of the fact that in so doing they have allowed evil forces to directly penetrate their individual houses and to deal with them separately. Objective analysis belies this assumption, because the loss each of us has suffered as a result of dissension has been far greater than any price we may or could have paid within the framework of joint action.

My brother leaders, there are several issues before us in this conference. Foremost among them is the Gulf war question, which has expedited the holding of this meeting in view of its urgency and dangerous and explosive possibilities if left unattended. There is also the Arab-Israeli conflict, the old yet new issue with all the pains it entails for the Palestinian people in particular and all the dangers and challenges it poses for the Arab nation in general. There are also other issues of certain importance and dimensions. However, I will limit my remarks to two main issues, for no reason except that as you all know they are of an international character because of their significant link to international peace and the world economy. They are of an international character also because they are the center of international concern due to the direct involvement of the major powers in them and the issuance of resolutions on them by the highest international authority. These two issues have been referred to this authority after all individual initiatives and regional efforts have failed to solve them. Security Council Resolutions 339 and 598 have become the well-known labels for these two issues.

As for other issues, important and pressing as they are, there is still room for tackling them on national and bilateral levels or within the framework of the Arab League. They may even be dealt with through cooperation between our regional organization and other regional organizations, depending of course on the type of settlement that is being sought. So I will give the opportunity to any of my brother leaders who wants to raise any issue concerning our one Arab family. I personally pledge to cooperation with you in tackling these issues with equal fervor and concern. I only urge that we all turn our immediate attention to chronic border problems which, if left unresolved, will further deepen suspicion, divisions, and splits.

Let me return to the first problem; namely, the Gulf War. I believe there is no need for me to go into its details and dimensions which are already known to us. I will simply refer to the factors which will help us adopt an objective Arab resolution which would contribute effectively toward bringing this war to an end. The pan-Arab objective agreed on by everyone, as I have learned from the leaders I contacted directly and as expressed by the resolutions of the Arab league Council and the statements made by all Arab leaders and officials without exception, is to bring an end to this war. Fraternal Iraq, which has been waging this defensive war directly and alone for the past 7 years, has often declared its sincere desire to end this destructive war by peaceful means.

In fact, Iraq has made several peace initiatives and proposals whose principles have met with world approbation and support. However, these initiatives and proposals have only been rejected by the Iranian regime, which insists on continuing this war until it defeats Iraq by force or until Iraq accepts self-defeat by peaceful means. This is the most unusual thing we have seen in international relations and peaceful settlements. The current Iranian position is seeking a Nuremburg which would condemn the other party although it is uncondemned and to defeat it although it is undefeated.

The elements which I think will help us reach a resolution are:

1. All individual and regional initiatives through the ICO and the Nonaligned Movement to reach a peaceful settlement between Iraq and Iran have collided with Iranian intransigence.

2. As a result of this intransigence, the scope of the war has expanded and the big powers have been given the opportunity to establish a direct presence in the Gulf, thereby increasing prospects for regional confrontation.

3. Due to the failure of all individual and regional efforts to end the war and the subsequent expansion of this war, the problem was referred to the UN Security Council, thus becoming a world issue.

4. The Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 598, which is a balanced resolution in its principles.

5. Iraq accepted this resolution and announced its commitment to implement it in its entirety in accordance with the arrangement of its provisions. On the other hand, Iran rejected the resolution and is still prevaricating and procrastinating to block international efforts so they will not move to the phase of applying enforcement measures.

6. The Gulf is of equal strategic value to the United States and the Soviet Union. At the same time, it is the backbone of the industries of Japan and the European states, allies of the United States, since it is the main source of the oil needed by these states. Therefore, the Western alliance cannot possibly abandon the Gulf in favor of the USSR.

7. It is obvious that this war can only be brought to an end by a unified Arab stand involving the entire Arab nation to convince the Iranian regime that it will not win the war against steadfast, lofty Iraq or achieve its ambitions in the other Arab Gulf states.

8. Iran is a Muslim state and member of the ICO and the Nonaligned Movement, just as it is also a neighbor of seven Arab states.

9. Israel benefits the most from the continuation of this war.

An objective and discerning perusal of the facts will undoubtedly lead to the following logical conclusions:

1. The continuation of the Iraq-Iran war is a form of destructive wantonness.

2. The termination of this war is an Arab and Islamic duty.

3. Arab and Iranian interests should complement one another, not contradict and destroy one another.

4. The nature and developments of the war has made the presence of foreign fleets in the gulf indivisible from the war. They have become one issue.

5. A comprehensive termination of the war by peaceful means on the basis of the return of the belligerents to international borders, the exchange of POW's, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and the establishment of relations of mutual cooperation and good neighborliness is in the equal interest of Iran and the Arabs. It is also a prelude to building a healthy atmosphere for Arab-Islamic cooperation.

6. The termination of the war will enable the region to avoid falling prey to polarization or slipping into international alliances and confrontations. If this happens, both Arabs and Iranians will pay a price in our independence, freedom, and identity, whether as Arabs or Iranians.

7. The termination of the war is an urgent necessity to conserve our Arab and Iranian resources and to use them to serve our peoples, bolster our intrinsic strength against the designs of the enemies of the Arabs and Muslims, and achieve a comprehensive, qualitative parity with Israel.

8. The world, with its various nations and blocs as well as its international organizations, is aware of all these facts. Whether we like it or not, this world considers our present meeting an opportunity to test us anew on the basis of the type of decisions we make. The world will determine if we are indeed fully aware of and concerned about our pan-Arab interests and capable of and serious about protecting these interests. Depending on this judgment the world will formulate its policy, not only toward the Iraq-Iran war, but also all other Arab issues, including the Arab-Israeli conflict and other conflicts, and even our efforts at reconstruction and development. In other words, it will pass judgment on our entire Arab order and whether it has the requisites for continued existence or will become a relic of the past. In that case, the world would proceed to carry out its policies in accordance with the rules of the international political game, which is to seek its own interests without any regard for our interests since we have abandoned them first.

9. In view of all that, I believe we should adopt a clear and firm resolution reflecting our determination to end this war. We should also agree on the mechanism for following up and implementing this resolution.

My brother leaders, with regard to the other major issue—the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict—there is also need to go into its details, dimensions, and developemnts. These are already known to us and firmly entrenched in our consciences and minds. Perhaps what should be affirmed while in the process of assessing our position and rectifying the current situation, is the following:

1. UN Security Council Resolution 338 followed on the heels of the October 1973 war to reaffirm Resolution 242. It calls for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories in exchange for peace. This resolution is still awaiting implementation.

2. The Arab side has accepted Security Council Resolution 338 and expressed its readiness to implement it in its entirety and has worked toward that end. However, Israel has turned toward aborting and disrupting this resolution or at least depriving it of its essence. In pursuit of this objective, Israel has done the following:

a. It has obstructed the reconvening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

b. It has succeeded so far in diverting the role of the United States from that of a superpower with a special responsibility toward world peace into a role of a sponsor of Israel and Israeli interests. This has tied the United States' hands and made it view the peace process from the Israeli angle only, thus avoiding any contradiction with its view of israel as a strategic ally.

c. It invaded Lebanon, where it achieved some of its objectives.

d. It has continued establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories, announced the annexation of Jerusalem and the occupied Golan Heights, and is exerting efforts to liquidate the Palestinian Arab society in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by destroying its values and its economic, social, and cultural fabric.

3. To confront Israel's disruptive efforts, we in Jordan, in coordination with sisterly Syria, adopted the view of concentrating efforts on convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East and mobilizing resources and support for this conference. This approach realized noticeable progress with the result that an international conference has become acceptable worldwide as a formula to reach a just and comprehensive peace settlement for the Arab-Israeli dispute, especially as our proposal is based on international legitimacy since we called for convening it under UN auspices with the participation of the five permenent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties to the dispute including the PLO to implement Resolutions 242 and 338 and solve the various aspects of the Palestinian problem. However, this worldwide support for the conference is still facing disruptive Israeli attempts and U.S. indulgence toward Israel's position.

4. Thus, these reasons make it important to formulate a unified Arab position supporting the call for an international conference for peace in the Middle East and the efforts exerted to convene it. At least, this will be a great contribution toward preventing Israel from exploiting Arab conditions and resolving the Palestinian problem its way while continuing to swallow Arab territories and beef up its military strength.

And while the Iraq-Iran war requires coordination among the GCC states and some Islamic states to seek effective ways to end it, the Palestinian problem, which is characterized by dynamism and change, also requires coordination and contacts among certain Arab sides that are directly concerned with the problem and a number of influential world powers. However, a unified Arab position and well-planned political action must be backed by the credibility of joint Arab action. In the Arab-Israeli dispute in particular, this credibility cannot materialize except through constant support, which is indispensable in contining to build the military and economic resources of the states in direct confrontation with Israel and to provide systematic assistance for the Palestinian people under occupation.

Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, this summit of ours has been described as extraordinary. Perhaps, it would have been better to describe it as a historic summit. I am not using the last two words indiscrimintely as a press term to describe this or that occasion without paying due respect to history, but as a genuine description of this meeting. Our success, with God's help and guidance, will be a success for our nation, a deliverance of the Arab order, a protection of the Arab character, an entrenchment of pan-Arab security, a defense of the Arab homeland, and a source of confidence for the future generations.

As for our failure, God forbid, it will be a failure for all, a devastating blow to what remained of the Arab structure, ingratitude toward our forefathers, betrayal of our sons, and the beginning of a new period in our history where Qom might replace Istanbul, which we fought after it was transformed from an Islamic capital into a metropolis for the Turkish Empire. We might also see Israel as the largest and stongest state among impotent statelets, each one seeking protection from an industrial power. This meeting, my brothers, is our last shot. Either we make it a springboard into the cherished future or the beginning of a collapse into the abyss of oblivion.

Our Lord, bestow on us mercy from Thyself and dispose of our affairs for us in the right way . [Koranic verse] May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Arab Leaders Continue Meetings

JN101219 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Heads of Arab delegations to the reconciliation and accord summit resumed their peripheral meetings today. His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti amir, visited His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini amir; His Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Excellency Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid; and His Excellency Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman visited His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president; His Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister; and His Highness Crown Prince Mohamed of Morocco.

Moroccan Prince Speaks

LD102016 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov 10. (MAP)—Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed who represents King Hassan II of Morocco to the works of the Arab Emergency Summit currently held in Amman took the floor Monday and recalled Moroccan stances towards a number of Arab issues. Sidi Mohamed voiced hope to see the summit adopt resolutions to cope up [as received] with the juncture which requires the Arab nation to cement ranks and foster solidarity. The Moroccan delegation, he said, has no work document but will fully contribute to the search for solutions to pending problems. Morocco, he went on, has endorsed Arab causes and defended them international, regional, Arab and Islamic fora.

Morocco which defended these causes the military and diplomatic arenas with faith, sincerity and impartiality will continue to endeavor in this respect and honor its commitment to this cause, he said. Morocco, he recalled, has hosted several Arab and Islamic summits which adopted major resolutions and decisions. He also renewed Moroccan commitment for further action and efforts to ensure the glory and unity of the Arab nation, the liberation of its territories, targets which are perfectly attainable if positive will prevails.

The crown prince insisted on directives by the sovereign to the Moroccan delegation which sum up in the respect of all dispositions of the Arab League charter, including the duty of Arab solidarity whenever the need arises. The second guideline of the Royal directives is adherence to the Fes resolutions which gave the Arab nation a new impetus and a privileged rank within the international community.

Sidi Mohamed also held a series of contacts in side activities to the summit and conferred with the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mahmoud Mestiri.

AL-DUSTUR Notes Main Issues

JN101305 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 10 Nov 87 pp 1, 23

[By the *Al-Dustur* press team at the Al-Husayn Youth City press center in Amman]

[Excerpts] The deliberations yesterday by the leaders during their second day of the extraordinary summit meetings were characterized by optimism and a positive spirit. The efforts exerted by His Majesty King Husayn, chairman of the summit conference, and his brother leaders succeeded in bringing about a meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during which the Gulf war and bilateral relations between the two fraternal states Iraq and Syria were discussed. [passage omitted on leaders attending the meeting and Al-Masri's press conference]

Informed sources have told *Al-Dustur* that the summit conference formed a four-member committee comprising His Majesty King Husayn, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, President Chadli Bendjedid, and His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and entrusted them with holding contacts among Arab leaders with the aim of clearing the Arab atmosphere. The sources added that this committee held two meetings to chart a course of action in this regard. These sources went on to say that the issue of Egypt's readmission to the Arab League has in fact become a major issue, just like the Iraq-Iran war.

Within this framework, a number of Arab states, especially the Gulf states, have intensified their contacts on the fringes of the summit to help reach agreement over Egypt's readmission to the Arab League or at least to have the summit allow the Arab states which desire to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt to do so. The sources added that the majority of the Arab states which severed their diplomatic relations with Egypt in 1979 will restore these relations soon after the conclusion of the Amman summit. Those who reject Egypt's readmission to the Arab League contend that Egypt's readmission would contravene the spirit of the resolutions of the successive Arab summit conferences. However, those who support the resumption of full diplomatic ties with Egypt also have legal arguments to support their cause. A Gulf diplomat said: The Arab League Charter does not contain any article about suspending the membership of any member state. Therefore, doubts are bound to be cast on the legitimacy of the suspension resolution itself.

Arab sources said there is a reconciliation plan involving Syria and Lebanon and that Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i is coordinating and working on this plan. Al-Rifa'i met separately with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil to prepare the suitable grounds for holding a meeting between them and discussing the prominent role which Syria may play in ending the bloodshed in Lebanon. There is also another plan for restoring Jordanian-PLO coordination which was suspended more than 1 year ago. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid are working on this plan.

The issues that have been initially agreed upon so far can be summarized as follows:

Egypt's readmission to the Arab fold is one of the issues that does not constitute a bone of contention among the majority of Arab states. The general trend in this regard revolves around giving each individual Arab state the freedom to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt if it chooses to do so. This is different from adopting a resolution calling for Egypt's reinstatement in the Arab league.

It was agreed that the international peace conference must be convened with the participation of the UN Security Council's permanent member states. The PLO and other Arab parties must also attend the conference. The acceptance of UN resolutions on the Palestine question, including UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, has been stressed.

The issue of renewing the Arab aid program to the confrontation states and the PLO which expires at the end of next year will be postponed until next year.

It is impossible to predict the nature of the resolutions that will be adopted toward the Iraq-Iran war. However, it can be confirmed that the Arab states will take further steps to support Iraq materially and morally. There is also a serious move to find a way out of the current Lebanese crisis.

Al-Shar', 'Aziz Hold Talks

LD101359 Kuwait KUNA in English 1251 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov 10 (KUNA]—Reliable sources said here Tuesday that a meeting is currently underway between Syrian and Iraqi Foreign Ministers Faruq al-Shar' and Tariq 'Aziz. The sources told KUNA that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi is attending the meeting which comes following a meeting between the Iraqi and Syrian Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad last night. The sources predicted that today's meeting is an indication that both countries have reached an agreement in principle between them on major issues tabled on the agenda of the summit topped by the Iraq-Iran war.

3d Closed Summit Session Ends

JN101434 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Amman—Their majesties, excellencies, and highnesses the kings, presidents, amirs, and heads of the delegations attending the extraordinary Arab summit—the summit of reconciliation and agreement—ended their third closed working session this afternoon. The session lasted approximately 3 hours. [passage omitted].

Barre Receives Sudanese Leader

EA101908 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] President Challe Muhammad Siad Barre, who is leading Somalia's delegation to the summit, today received Ahmad 'Ali Mirghani, chairman of the State Council of Sudan. Challe Siad and Mirghani discussed relations and cooperation between the two countries and the question of unifying the position of Arab League members on the Gulf war, the Middle East situation, Lebanon, the problems of the Arab world, and international issues.

Al-Asad, Saddam Meet 3d Time

LD101500 Kuwait KUNA in English 1410 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov 10 (KUNA)—A third meeting between the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn began a little while ago at the Jordanian Monarch King Husayn's residence, sources said here Tuesday. The meeting comes after two other meetings yesterday, the first combined the two alone, and the second combined them with several other Arab leaders, including the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah. Today's latest meeting was also attended by other Arab leaders, but the soruces did nt say who those leaders were.

Earlier today, the Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his Iraqi counterpart Tariq 'Aziz met for several hours. The Secretary General of the Arab League Chadli Klibi also attended the meeting.

The sources expressed optimism that the talks between the two Arab leaders would end up with a normalization in the relations between Syria and Iraq and a possible breakthrough in the Iran-Iraq war. Syria is known for its support for Iran in the war.

Syria Gives Terms for Support

NC101726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1650 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Delegates to the Arab summit in Amman have said that Syria has asked the Arab Gulf states to make efforts to bring about the withdrawal of U.S. naval forces from the Gulf in return for Syria's support for Iraq's calls for an immediate end to the Iraq-Iran war.

Husayn, 'Arafat Reconciled

JN101738 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, 10 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn, His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat have held a meeting at President Saddam Husayn's place of residence. The meeting was attended by Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

In a statement to the INA team after the meeting, an official Iraqi source said that President Saddam Husayn's efforts have succeeded in restoring amity between His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

'Arafat on Meeting With Husayn

JN110945 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 87 p 1

[By a *Jordan Times staff reporter]*

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn pursued his efforts for Arab reconciliation on the fringes of the Arab summit conference on Tuesday by hosting a meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The king earlier met with Mr al-Asad and with Mr Husayn separately.

The king also met with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The king's meeting with Mr 'Arafat was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. On the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by the head of the PLO's Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, and the PLO representative in Amman, the *Jordan News Agency,* Petra, reported.

Following the meeting, Mr 'Arafat said he had agreed with the king to resume efforts, broken off in January 1986, to coordinate their Middle East peace strategy. "It was more than reconciliation," Mr 'Arafat told reporters after emerging from the meeting. "I had a meeting in the morning with the monarch in the presence of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and we agreed to coordinate for the sake of our people and our just cause," he said.

Tuesday's meetings were the first in Amman between the King and Mr 'Arafat since the February 1986 collapse of a joint effort to negotiate peace with Israel. But the two leaders met on the fringes of the Organisation of Islamic Conference in Kuwait last January. [passage omitted]

'Arafat on Talks With Husayn

JN111017 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 11 Nov 87 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman—PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn yesterday was more than a reconciliation. 'Arafat added: I had a meeting in the morning with his majesty the king in the presence of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and we agreed on what is in the interest of our people and the just cause. 'Arafat hoped that the success of the summit conference would help convene an international Middle East peace conference.

Speaking to reporters following his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn yesterday, 'Arafat said an international conference should guarantee Palestinian national rights and not merely acknowledge them. He added that all the Arab leaders who spoke about the Palestine question in the closed session stressed the importance of holding an international peace conference and that the summit is expected to issue a resolution emphasizing this fact.

He described his talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as positive, warm, and constructive. He added that the Soviet leaders are working for an international peace conference to resolve the Middle East crisis and the Palestine question. He said: The two superpowers agree to the dual option which deals with the Middle East crisis as one of the world's hot areas. 'Arafat stressed he is ready to meet with any Israeli official under the umbrella of the United Nations or the international conference and said this is not new.

He said the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for bolstering steadfastness will convene on 23 November to study many of the topics on its agenda after the arrival of $9.5 million from sisterly Saudi Arabia for this purpose.

'Arafat added: I demand the implementation of what was approved by the Arab foreign ministers council concerning the agreement reached between the representatives of the PLO and the Unification and Liberation Front in Lebanon on 11 September.

'Arafat reiterated that a decision on whether an international conference will or will not be held will be decided before the end of this year when the two superpowers meet on 7 December.

Regarding the restoration of relations with Egypt, he said: We were the first Arab side to restore relations with Cairo. Therefore, we do not at all object to Arab countries' restoration of relations with Egypt. However, we have two points to note in this regard: Egypt's commitment to the Collective Arab Defense Pact and the Arab summit resolutions.

In reply to a question he said: The PLO Central Council has discussed the formation of the new PNC on new bases, taking into consideration the remarks of all parties. We are thus proceeding from our democratic stands.

'Blackout' of Delegation Hit

JN101755 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Palestinian popular organizations in the YAR today sent a cable to King Husayn, Chedli Klibi, and brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The following is the text of the cable:

You are holding your esteemed conference very close to holy Jerusalem, which is suffering from the hated Zionist occupation that threatens the entire Arab nation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arabian Gulf. As you do so, we announce in the name of our Palestinian masses in the YAR territory our rejection and denunciation of the news blackout on and of the disregard for our people's revolution. We would like to affirm to your esteemed conference that our leader brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has not spared any effort since the start of the Iraq-Iran war to end that war.

At the same time, our Palestinian Arab people, under the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, also continue to defend the Arab nation's honor and dignity. We stress that we rally around our legitimate leadership represented by brother leader Abu 'Ammar. As we do so, we urge you to epitomize the Arab nation's aspirations by taking historic positions on the march of our brave revolution to achieve its goals of repatriation, liberation, and establishment of an independent Palestinian state on our national soil with holy Jerusalem as its capital. We stand by our Palestinian masses inside and outside the occupied homeland. They are very concerned over the news blackout imposed on the movements of the Palestinian delegation to your esteemed summit. We also urge you to shoulder your responsibilities toward the Palestine question, the central issue of the Arab nation.

4th Closed Session Begins

JN101902 Amman PETRA-JNA in English 1855 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, Nov, 10 PETRA—Arab leaders to the extraordinary summit have started the fourth closed session at 2030 hrs local time in the Plaza Hotel.

Summit To End 'Tomorrow'

JN101919 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] On behalf of the official spokesman of the Arab summit, Dr Akram Barakat made the following statement at 1830 today:

[Begin Barakat recording] The Arab summit conference held a third closed session this morning. It was confined to heads of delegations. The summit resumed its deliberations on issues under discussion. The Lebanese issue led all other issues in today's meeting, which lasted 3 and 1/2 hours.

Concerning the mini-meeting which was held last night and which was confined to the eight states mentioned yesterday, a fraternal meeting was held within this meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Saddam Husayn. It may be said that this meeting is a good omen heralding a new phase of fraternal relations between the two sisterly countries, Syria and Iraq. This reconciliation will result in good news, God willing, in the interest of the two peoples and the entire Arab nation. This will consecrate the concept of solidarity to protect pan-Arab security.

Moreover, the drafting committee, composed of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the YAR, Algeria, the UAE, the PLO, and the Arab League, met this morning to discuss draft resolutions concerning the various aspects and ramifications of the Iraq-Iran war and the Arab-Israeli dispute. The drafting committee will be resuming its meetings as of now and will be meeting until later tonight to draft other resolutions presented to it.

If issues proceed successfully, the summit conference will conclude its work tomorrow.

Thank you. [end recording]

Husayn, Al-Asad, Others Meet

JN101945 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] At 1830 today a meeting was held at His Majesty King Husayn's place of residence. It was attended, in addition to his majesty, by His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar; and His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister of Saudi Arabia. His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad of Kuwait joined the meeting later. The meeting was also attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan.

More Bilateral Meetings Held

JN101949 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Within bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the extraordinary Amman summit, the summit of reconciliation and accord, Arab League Secretay General Chedli Klibi visited His Excellency Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon and His Excellency Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. Talks during the two meetings centered on a number of issues under the summit's discussion.

His Excellency Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid visited His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, this evening. The meeting was attended by members of both countries' delegations to the summit.

'Differences' on Egypt Noted

LD102125 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2102 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, 10 Nov (KUNA)—KUNA learned here tonight that there have been differences in the stances of Arab countries taking part at the Arab emergency summit regarding Egypt's return to the Arab League. Three countries oppose the return of Egypt to the Arab fold: Syria, Libya, and the PDRY. Two countries have voiced reservations on this matter: Algeria and Tunisia. The remaining countries have agreed on Egypt's return to the Arab League. KUNA has learned, however, that a specific decision has not been reached yet regarding this matter.

Al-Jumayyil Addresses Summit

NC102125 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2004 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Telephone dispatch from unidentified Lebanese Information Ministry correspondent in Amman on 10 November—recorded]

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil presented two political and economic plans to the Arab summit conference this afternoon. The political plan contains proposals for an integrated solution of the Lebanese crisis through constitutional reform that could serve as a new charter for national accord. Al-Jumayyil pointed out that the plan could be modified to ensure Arab sponsorship. The economic plan calls for the formation of a national commission to supervise the distribution of aid from an Arab fund to be set up for the support of Lebanon. President al-Jumayyil went on to say that agreement to establish this fund would make the economic accord one of the keys or, rather, one of the mainstays of the political accord.

In a lengthy speech during the third closed session, attended only by the heads of delegations and held at the Plaza Hotel, President al-Jumayyil began by expressing his thanks to King Husayn for hosting the extraordinary Arab summit and for his majesty's efforts to create an atmosphere of brotherhood and understanding which has helped make the summit successful. President al-Jumayyil congratulated the Jordanian monarch on the two historic speeches he delivered during the opening session and the subsequent closed session. President al-Jumayyil also highlighted certain points contained in the speeches and called on Arab leaders to work to avoid falling in [words indistinct].

President al-Jumayyil then discussed the sufferings of the Arab people as a result of the endless tragedies. He expressed his distress at the attacks launched against certain Arab cities—attacks that have been the subject of strong condemnation. He pointed in this regard to the events in Mecca and the bombardment of Baghdad, Kuwait, and other Arab cities. He called for further Arab solidarity to confront the dangers threatening Arab countries.

In his speech, President al-Jumayyil described the Palestinian people's tragedy as the result of the lack of a just and lasting solution that would ensure all the rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination. President al-Jumayyil then alluded to the Arab tragedies and to the Lebanese people's hardships. He said that no Arab has suffered as the Lebanese has. This suffering was discussed in full at the Arab summit in Riyadh 12 years ago. The wound has become deeper since then. He added: Today we must close the bloodstained Lebanese file.

During his speech, Al-Jumayyil dealt with the factors that generated the sectarian and religious struggles and have led to a deterioration in living conditions. He pointed to the sincere desire or, rather, the determination of the Lebanese to end this crisis and struggle. He added: We have made and we are continuing to make ceaseless efforts to put an end to the struggles which [word indistinct] to draw artificial borders between areas and sects. Consequently, divisive elements have surfaced from all directions. Therefore, if we do not hasten to remedy this serious situation it is feared that such elements will become entrenched; there will be a fait accompli serving to promote this situation not only in Lebanon but also in areas outside it. Hence, we would be implementing the designs that aim to dismember the Arab world and the entire Middle East, beginning with southern Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil pointed out that Lebanon is the weakest link in the Arab world as a result of the war and its effects on Lebanese constitutional institutions. If this situation goes on and the Lebanese fait accompli is established, division and extinction threaten Lebanon and danger will spread to affect other Arab societies. The Arab world will become a macrocosm of the Palestinian cause and we will not be able to resolve the situation, he said.

President al-Jumayyil voiced the hope that the atmosphere of harmony and cordiality pervading the Amman summit would be translated into resolutions reflecting Arab solidarity and at the same time benefiting Lebanon. This, he said, could mean that the war-torn nation would once again be able to work for the Arab cause. Lebanon was once a strong champion of the Arab cause, he said, but it is being prevented from contributing to the building of the Arab future as its energies are wasting away and its resolve is being weakened as a result of internal strife. Al-Jumayyil said that Lebanon needs the helping hand of the Arabs and would soon benefit from the reconciliation which seems to be in the making. Instead of fanning the fire in Lebanon, he asked, why don't you help us heal the wounds?

Al-Jumayyil elaborated on the issue of the south, which originally sparked off the war. He called for assistance [for the south] and effective and coordinated action to ensure the implementation of international resolutions which would enable the state to exercise its legitimate authority in the south. He declared that the south should be allowed to live in peace. Its inhabitants, he added, should feel safe and should receive the help they need to stay in their land and defend it.

The president urged King Husayn, who is chairing the summit meeting, to commit his efforts and those of the attending heads of states to tackling the Lebanese problem. He mentioned that many proposals for a solution have been tabled. Some of these ideas are not new; they were on the verge of being implemented in the past, he pointed out. Al-Jumayyil said: Up to the last hour of my term in office I will continue to seek a solution which matches the determination of the Lebanese people to achieve reconciliation and unity and defend their independence and sovereignty.

He made a brief review of the Lebanese crisis and the solutions which have been proposed and debated. He pointed to the interest which the Arabs, particularly Syria, have shown in these plans for a solution. Speaking of Syrian intervention in Lebanon, Al-Jumayyil cited the remarks made in 1976 by President Hafiz al-Asad to the effect that the purpose of this intervention is to safeguard Lebanon's unity, stop hostilities in the country, and lay the ground for peace and reconciliation with the Palestinians. If previous Arab and Syrian efforts have not so far achieved these objectives, Al-Jumayyil said, we should not lose heart. We have to keep trying until the conditions for success are at hand, he said, adding that the summit meeting offers an opportunity to help resolve the Lebanese crisis and, as such, should not be wasted.

Addressing the kings and presidents, Al-Jummayil said Lebanon is an Arab country insofar as its land, people, and traditions are concerned. It is also a country with a strong tradition of Islamic-Christian coexistence, a tradition which is there to stay, he added.

Speaking of Lebanon's internal situation, Al-Jumayyil said he has prepared a comprehensive plan for political reform which could be used as a blueprint for a new national charter. The plan, he stated, encompasses constitutional, political, and structural reforms. He said that he had reviewed this plan with King Husayn, who is chairman of the Arab summit, and that the contents of this plan were discussed in some detail. Al-Jumayyil said the plan could be a good basis for discussion and that it could serve as a catalyst for reconciliation among the Lebanese. Arab and, particularly, Syrian, help could be instrumental in achieving such a goal, Al-Jumayyil noted.

President al-Jumayyil then went on to discuss the current economic situation that has resulted from the war and its effects, expressing the view that if the Arabs allow Lebanon to collapse economically, there will be no way left to rescue it. The president quoted figures indicative of the economic hardships which the Lebanese are suffering. He pointed out that the minimum wage has declined in past months to between $15 and $20, most of which is spent on bread and fuel. Only a little, he added, is left for other food, clothing, housing, education, and medical care. This means that the Lebanese citizen's ability to persevere has been impaired. The national per capital income, he went on, has dropped from $1,230 to $155.

Al-jumayyil said he had prepared accurate studies regarding the economic situation to place before the conferees, calling for action to save the Lebanese currency and the financial, economic, and social systems to enable the Lebanese people to overcome their crushing hardships and to enable Lebanon to regain some of its health and stability. He warned that when he is starving, a man becomes an obedient tool in the hands of conspirators and is easily exploited. Thus, if he is starving, the Lebanese may become dangerous not only to his own country, but to other parts of the world as well, and perhaps even beyond. Therefore, the danger extends beyond Lebanon to include the Arab world as a whole, as his majesty the king said in his opening speech, he stated.

The president said studies have already been prepared in Lebanon, in addition to other studies carried out in Jordan by the Arab Thought Forum under the supervision of Crown Prince Hasan ibn Talal, in cooperation with Lebanese experts. Within the context of this Forum, these experts have studied the economic, social, and cultural dimensions of the Lebanese war, he said. The president urged that these studies be accepted as conference documents. The president then proposed a plan for economic aid to Lebanon in its urgent need. He noted there was Lebanese agreement on setting up a national commission to administer the contributions of the Arab fund for aid to Lebanon under the supervision of the prime minister and comprising representatives of the agencies and institutions concerned and persons known for their capabilities and integrity. Representatives from contributing Arab countries should also participate in this commission through research, coordination, or supervision.

Al-jumayyil expressed the view that an agreement to set up such a fund would make the economic accord one of the keys or mainstays of the political reconciliation. Al-Jumayyil concluded his speech at the closed session by saying: All of you know and love Lebanon as Lebanon loves you. I am here to put the issue of Lebanon before you. Lebanon has chosen the Arab course and will remain with it or perish with it.

4th Closed Summit Session Ends

JN110619 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Their majesties, excellencies, and highnesses the Arab kings, presidents, amirs, and heads of delegations to the extraordinary Arab summit—the summit of reconciliation and accord—concluded their fourth closed working session at 0030 today. The session began at 2030 yesterday and lasted 4 hours.

Monte Carlo on Closed Session

JN110625 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Antoine Nawfal dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpts] The last closed session of the extraordinary summit in Amman lasted 4 hours and 30 minutes. Following this session, President Saddam Husayn made a statement in which he expressed his satisfaction with the success of this summit. He said: One of the factors of its success is that it was held in Amman. Late last night the drafting committee was still preparing the summit resolutions. It has been learned that Syria has modified its stand toward UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and agreed to the implementation of all its clauses according to their present sequence. If this turns out to be true, the summit will have made a huge step along the path of success.

In another development, the heads of delegations discussed their overall relations with Iran and the Iranian aggressions against the Gulf states in their closed session. A well-informed source did not expect the resolution to mention the foreign fleets in the Gulf waters because their presence is an inevitable result of the war. The source added that what is important today is not this issue, but the way to end the war. As for the restoration of official relations with Egypt, it was agreed to leave the door open for anyone wishing to do so.

A six-member committee comprising Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, and Qatar was formed to discuss topics related to supporting the confrontation states. The frank discussions within this committee echoed a new development in the stands of the Gulf states which have begun to consider themselves confrontation states and, consequently, they will assume an extraordinary war effort. A Gulf official was cited as saying: We will support and extend aid to the one who seeks an end to the war. Otherwise, what is the use of supporting him? [passage omitted]

The final summit sesion is expected to be held within the next few hours.

Iraq To Resume Ties With Egypt

JN110826 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 87 p 1

[Excerpt] Iraq will restore diplomatic relations with Egypt immediately after the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman regardless whatever decision that the conference takes on the issue of Egypt's return to the Arab League or on Arab diplomatic relations with Cairo, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said Tuesday. Mr Ramadan, a member of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, told the *Jordan Times* in an exclusive interview that his country was spearheading a campaign within the summit to readmit Egypt to the Arab League. However, Mr Ramadan said, Iraq was "determined to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt immediately after the summit" regardless of the outcome of its efforts at the summit.

Mr Ramadan's statement coincided with reports at least five other Gulf states—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE and Bahrain—were poised to announce their resumption of diplomatic ties with Egypt, which was expelled from the Arab League in 1978 at an Arab summit in Baghdad following the Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat's controversial visit to Jerusalem. It is widely accepted that only a unanimous Arab decision could revoke the suspension and readmit Egypt to the Arab League, but Mr Ramadan said: "Readmission of Egypt does not require a unanimous Arab decision."

He explained the statement by recalling that Sudan and Oman did not join the 1978 vote to expel Egypt from the Arab League and therefore, "the decision to suspend Egypt's membership (in the League) was a majority decision and, consequently, a reversal of that resolution does not need a unanimous decision...a majority decision will suffice."

During Tuesday's closed session of the Arab summit, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, an avowed opponent of Egypt's readmission to the Arab League as long as Cairo does not revoke its 1979 seprate peace treaty with Israel, reiterated his stand against moves to reinstate Egpt's membership in the League. [passage omitted]

Ramadan on Syrian Summit Stand

JN110851 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 87 p 1, 4

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *Jordan Times* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] A senior Iraqi official on Tuesday voiced reserved optimism that Syria would be ready to back an Arab resolution in support of Iraq's position in the seven-year-old war with Iran. Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraq's first deputy prime minister and member of the Revolutionary Command Council, said deliberations at the extraordinary Arab summit on the Iran-Iraq war had shown "a positive" change in the Syrian position, which gives way to "an extent of optimism" that Damascus would endorse a final resolution in support of Iraq. Mr Ramadan, in an exclusive interview with the *Jordan Times*, described the warmth that characterised the meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad as "unthinkable before."

Prior to Monday night's banquet, His Majesty King Husayn brought together the Iraqi and Syrian leaders in a meeting with the leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, the United Arab Emirates and North Yemen. Referring to the meeting, an acting official Jordanian spokesman said Tuesday that "the two leaders' (President Husayn and President al-Asad) brotherly meeting could signal a promising start to a new era of brotherly relations between Syria and Iraq." [passage omitted]

Mr Ramadan told the *Jordan Times* Iraq does not consider bilateral relations and issues related to Baghdad-Damascus ties as the most important aspect towards Iraqi-Syrian reconciliation. "In our view, the most important aspect is Syria's position on the (Iran-Iraq) war," he said. According to Mr Ramadan, Iraq has detected "a change in the Syrian position right from the outset of the summit (and) this change became clearer as the proceedings (of the summit) continued."

A special panel of Arab foreign ministers entrusted with drafting summit resolutions started its work on Tuesday. Arab officials said the Syrian representative in the committee was arguing against the inclusion of an Arab endorsement of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 in its original form and was seeking some alterations in the draft document. However, Mr Ramadan said Iraq feels that Damascus "was trying to draw closer to Arab consensus on the issue."

The future of efforts to normalise relations between Syria and Iraq will heavily depend on Syria's willingness to "endorse a good resolution at this summit and its practical deeds on the (Gulf) war following the summit," Mr Ramadan said. According to Mr Ramadan, the "minimum" that Iraq will accept from the summit "is a resolution which includes a mechanism for its implementation and practical moves to stop the war. "The resolution should also define the Arab position and steps that should be adopted in the event of any future Iranian aggression or continued Iranian attacks on Iraq."

Asked if that implies an Arab commitment to the Arab Joint Defence Pact, Mr Ramadan said: In fact, a commitment to the Joint Arab Defence Pact should constitute the essence of any effective resolution...otherwise what is the use of any resolution?" [end quotation mark as received]

He explained that in Iraq's view a reactivation of the Arab countries' commitment to the pact will not only imply that Arab countries should stop providing Iran with weapons "but also dictates that Arab countries should take a clear stand." "We can no longer accept that Arab countries take an observer status. It is high time all Arab governments took side with Iraq," he said. Asked if that also implied that Arab countries should supply Iraq with weapons and send troops, Mr Ramadan replied: "The pact provides that each Arab country can help the country which is being attacked in accordance with each one's capabilities and potential."

But the Iraqi leader stressed that his country was more concerned with a unified Arab stand behind Bahgdad and the reactivation of the pact would provide the best practical manifestation of the Arab position. He said the endorsement of a unanimous Arab stand by the summit in support of Iraq and of Resolution 598 would influence the Security Council to push for the enforcement of Resolution 598 and undermine Tehran's "internal propaganda campaign." "The Tehran government has been using the Arab split over the war to justify and legitimise its continuation of the war by claiming that 'even the Arab states do not support Iraq,'" he said.

"Thus a unanimous resolution would undermine Tehran's argument at home and could even contribute to bringing about changes in Iran," he said. The Iraqi leader said if the summit succeeded in endorsing the aspired resolution the Arab countries should start an international campaign to influence the positions of the U.S. and the Soviet Union prior to the Dec. 7 superpower summit in Washington. "Therefore, we have suggested the formation of a committee, headed by an Arab leader and including members of the committee drafting the resolutions, to visit Wasington and Moscow to rally support for the Arab stand," he said. Mr Ramadan said that His Majesty King Husayn was the best Arab leader to head such a delegation.

Mr Ramadan warned that the summit "will be a failure if it failed to endorse such a resolution with practical steps...which constitute the minimum that Iraq is ready to accept." Asked about Iraq's reaction if the summit fell short of its "minimum expectations," the Iraqi leader said: "Iraq will then reject any resolution which is less than minimum that could be accepted and will urge the Arab leaders to announce that the summit has failed to agree on a unified stand on the Iran-Iraq war."

In such an event, he continued, Iraq will continue fighting but will not reconsider its relations with any Arab country: "Relations with Arab countries are a national issue that cannot be easily affected. We only sever relations with another country when (its actions) reach the point of treason," he said.

Syria Seeks Changes in UN Plan

*JN110903 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
11 Nov 87 p 1*

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *Jordan Times* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Well-informed Arab officials said Tuesday that Syria was trying to block an Arab summit resolution endorsing a United Nations cease-fire plan in the Gulf by rejecting the chronological order of the steps proposed in the internationally accepted resolution. The officials, who spoke to the *Jordan Times* on condition of anonymity, said the Syrian stand emerged during a meeting of a special panel of Arab foreign ministers entrusted with drafting resolutions to be adopted by the extraordinary Arab summit here.

"Syria insisted that the summit's endorsement of (U.N. Security Council) Resolution 598 should not include a reference that the chronological order of the steps be outlined in the resolution to end the Gulf war," said an official close to the panel in remarks made to a group of reporters. The official said Iraq, which enjoys the broad backing of the rest of the nine-member panel, was strongly resisting the Syrian move. Resolution 598 calls for an immediate cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, withdrawal of both belligerents' forces to the internationally-accepted border, an exchange of prisoners of war and an inquiry into the origins of the war to identify which party started the war seven years ago. The resolution stipulates that its implementation should follow the same chronological order as specified when it was adopted by the Security Council on July 20.

Iran is insisting that the U.N. set up a commission of inquiry to name the "aggressor" in the war before anything else as a precondition for accepting the resolution. The Syrian position at the panel drafting the Amman resolutions fell in line with the Iranian demand, analysts pointed out. [passage omitted]

The Arab official who spoke to reporters on Tuesday said Syria had accepted other parts of the resolution. These articles include a firm Arab support for Iraq in its position, a denunciation of Iran's rejection of various regional, and international peace proposals and a condemnation of Tehran for its occupation of Iraqi territory. [passage omitted]

The Syrian demand was not unexpected, since the foreign military presence has already provoked fears of "American hegemony" in the Gulf and Damascus was addressing the issue. But, though similar fears have been voiced by several other Arab countries, analysts said, Syria appeared to be diverting the focus away from the central theme of efforts to end the war. "Many Arabs are alerted by the growing presence of foreign fleets in the Gulf, but we believe that all efforts should be focused on the means to end the war," said an official of a pro-Iraq government. "If the war ends, then there will be no reason for the presence of these fleets," he pointed out.

MENA Reports Draft Resolutions

NC111039 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Amman, 11 Nov (MENA)—Arab foreign ministers attending the extraordinary summit conference in Amman held a meeting this morning prior to the summit's final session. The ministers reviewed the recommendations and resolutions prepared by the drafting committee, which includes eight foreign ministers, prior to submitting them for review by the Arab leaders.

MENA has learned that the drafting committee, which ended its work earlier today, has prepared a number of resolutions and recommendations dealing with four major issues: the Iraq-Iran war and its ramifications; the situation in Lebanon; the Palestinian issue and the international peace conference; and Arab security and relations with Egypt. MENA has learned that concerning the issue of restoring relations with Egypt, a resolution will be issued allowing Arab countries which severed relations with Cairo in 1978 to restore them on the basis of each country's sovereign decision and pan-Arab interests.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, the conference will recommend adopting a unified Arab stand toward Iran, exerting pressure on it in a way representing Arab consensus, and adopting economic and trade sanctions against countries which supply Iran with weapons.

The conference will also issue a resolution denouncing the act of aggression against Mecca during last year's pilgrimage season.

A summit source has stated that the resolutions to be announced today will be satisfactory to all parties and will attain a measure of Arab agreement and solidarity.

Egypt

Iraq, GCC Countries To Reestablish Relations
NC110657 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0842 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Nov (MENA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, has declared that his country will restore full diplomatic relations with Egypt after the conclusion of the Arab summit in Amman, regardless of the position the conference adopts on the issue.

This came in a statement which the Iraqi official made to the Kuwaiti newspapers *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* and *Al-Anba'*, published today.

The newspaper *Al-Siyasah* reports that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan is expected to leave Amman for Cairo today to announce the resumption of relations between Egypt and the GCC countries.

UAE Official Arrives With Message for Mubarak
NC112123 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo tonight and was received by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Upon arrival, Shaykh Rashid expressed happiness over his visit to Egypt. He disclosed that he is carrying a message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid al-Nuhayyan to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The UAE official described the Arab situation as good and said that it is reflected by Arab solidarity and common action.

Replying to a question on Egyptian-Arab relations, Shaykh Rashid asserted that Egyptian-Arab relations are growing, developing, and getting stronger to the benefit of Egypt and the Arabs.

UAE Restores Diplomatic Ties
NC111758 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1748 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Nov (MENA)—The UAE tonight announced the restoration of its diplomatic ties with the Arab Republic of Egypt. This is the first country to restore ties with Egypt following the Amman summit. Egypt's membership [in the Arab League] had been suspended since the Baghdad Summit.

Mubarak Receives UAE Message
JN121013 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo—His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a message from His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, on the outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit conference which concluded work in Amman yesterday. The message also deals with the consolidation of fraternal relations between the UAE and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

President Mubarak received the message today when he met with Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Muhammad Jasim Samhan, UAE charge d'affaires in Cairo.

Foreign Ministry Statement
NC121130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—The Arab Republic of Egypt today welcomed the restoration of full diplomatic ties with the UAE. This came in a statement by the Foreign Ministry. The text of the statement is as follows:

Egypt welcomes with due appreciation the statement by the fraternal UAE in which the restoration of full diplomatic ties with the Arab Republic of Egypt is announced.

Linked with the fraternal UAE by ties of blood, kinship, glorious history, and unity of ranks and destiny, Egypt views this historic decision as a continuation of the generous and courageous Arab stands, which revive the great deeds of the Arab and which stem from the UAE's concern to safeguard national interests.

These are the qualities which have always marked the policy of the fraternal UAE under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. His highness has led the march of the UAE and enhanced its prestige in his determination to defend Arab rights and well-being and to commit himself to Arab issues. He has always lived up to expectations whenever Arabism has called for sacrifice.

Under the leadership of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and with full awareness of the hazards and mighty tempests currently threatening the Arab world, Egypt reiterates its firm and permanent support for its Arab brothers. It backs their causes and obtains their support. It rises above differences and does not hesitate to make any sacrifices. It extends a helping hand and opens its heart. It joins forces with the dignified brothers in the UAE to give priority to Arab issues, to enhance the status of the Arabs, to defend their homes, and to achieve the aspirations of our unified Arab nation for dignity, progress, peace, and prosperity.

Official Talks Begin 12 Nov

NC121125 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Official talks between Egypt and the UAE began at the Foreign Ministry at noon today. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid leads the Egyptian side, while Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, leads his country's delegation.

The two sides will discuss current developments in the Arab situation and ways to bolster bilateral relations in various fields.

King Husayn Briefs Mubarak on Arab Summit

NC111634 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan telephoned President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this afternoon. During their conversation, the two leaders discussed the results of the Arab summit, which ended today. President Mubarak also praised the role of the Jordanian monarch in making the conference a success.

Arab Summit Resolution Welcomed as 'First Step'

JN120714 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] In the first official reaction to the Arab summit resolution, a high-ranking official has stated to our radio that Egypt welcomes this resoution as a first step and views it as evidence that the Arab states have realized Egypt's importance and role in the region. The official said that the resolution is a clear Arab recognition that Egypt has not abandoned the Palestinian cause or the Arab cause.

The Egyptian official added that Egypt hopes that the restoration of relations by several Arab states will be a step toward similar moves by other Arab states.

Diplomatic circles expect seven Arab states to resume relations with Egypt; namely, the GCC states as well as Iraq and Morocco. According to official information, the decision of the GCC states to resume relations with Egypt was made at the recent GCC Ministerial Council meeting. The results of the Arab summit were discussed in a telephone conversation between King Husayn and President Mubarak. President Mubarak had also discussed the summit results with his political aides and the possibilities for Egyptian moves on the Arab and international levels in the coming stage.

The official Egyptian trend avoids an exaggerated welcome for the summit resolution on Egypt, for the resolution is confined to stating the right of every state to restore relations, and Egypt did not expect more. Observers believe that the resolution in itself is positive, as this is the first time the Arab states have shown readiness to resume relations with Egypt despite the latter's relations with Israel. Egypt also views the summit's support for the international conference under UN auspices as a positive step that will exert pressure on Israel now that there is Arab support for the international conference.

Ghali Denounces Israel's 'Unwarranted Practices'

NC111606 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has reiterated Egypt's denunciation of all the unwarranted practices Israel is engaging in in the occupied Arab territories. He said that this applies to the inhuman repression and the use of force against the Palestinian people in the territories.

Dr Ghali made these remarks today during a meeting with UNRWA Director Bernard Miles [name and title as received]. Miles, who is currently visiting Cairo, briefed Dr Ghali on the worsening conditions in the Gaza Strip.

Widespread Student Demonstrations Reported

PM111151 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 3 Nov 87 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed Report: "Student Disturbances Sweep Egyptian Universities"]

[Text] The past few days have witnessed large-scale student disturbances inside a number of faculties at the universities of 'Ayn Shams, Alexandria, Al-Zaqaziq, and Bani Suwayf. Numerous clashes have taken place between security organs and university guards and students. Scores of students have been arrested.

The campus of 'Ayn Shams University in Al-'Abbasiyyah yesterday witnessed a huge demonstration on the anniversary of the sinister Balfour Declaration in which large masses of students from the faculties of law, commerce, and arts participated. Demonstrators burned Israeli and U.S. flags and raised Palestinian and Egyptian flags. The demonstration circled inside the campus while forces from the Central Security and State Security Intelligence besieged the campus to prevent the demonstration from proceeding to Al-'Abbasiyyah Square.

At the end of the demonstration, students held a conference in which they condemned the Zionist presence in Egypt and U.S. interference in the Arab region. They called for the suspension of all forms of normalization with Israel, as well as scientific research and conferences between Egyptian and Israeli universities.

At Alexandria University, huge student demonstrations erupted last Wednesday after negotiations between the two student unions of both the university and the faculty of engineering had failed as a result of the intransigence of the university's administration and its insistence on preventing veiled women students from entering the university campus.

Students held a large conference inside the lecture complex at the faculty of engineering in which they explained their demands and condemned the attitude of the university's rector, as well as the constant provocations on the part of the university guards. Students tried to organize a peaceful march outside the university but massive security forces besieging the university prevented them from moving out. They also arrested a large number of student leaders.

Security and intelligence organs, as well as guard forces of the Bani Suwayf University, arrested scores of students last week, particularly members of the Islamic group, for no specific reason. At the faculty of commerce, the following students were arrested: Fathi Sabir Muhammad, Hasam Makkawi, Walid Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, and Husni Muhammad Hasan. The charge was that they had asked the commander of the university guard to allow a veiled women student to enter the university. He arrested them and threatened the other students, who had assembled after the incident, that he would kill with his own gun any student who would not comply with his instructions!

At the faculties of law and sciences at the same university, more than 14 students were arrested after the noon prayers at the faculty's mosque! Among the detainees was Abu al-Khayr Shalqani, a student in the first year at the faculty of arts and sciences, who was released from Abu Za'bal prison only to be rearrested 2 days later!

At the Al-Zaqaziq University, guard forces of the faculty of commerce arrested student Nabil Mustafa Sulayman for wearing a long robe (jilbab)! He was detained in the office of Dr Samir Tubar, the dean of the faculty of commerce. He was threatened with expulsion and was then moved to State Security intelligence in Ismailia. It was said that the university guard forces prevented veiled women students from entering the faculties of education, law, and commerce, thus stirring up large-scale resentment and anger among students.

Libya

Commentary Denounces Enniskillen IRA Bombing

LD101658 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Nov (JANA)—Press reports from Belfast indicate that the number of victims from the explosion that occurred in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland on Sunday morning has reached 11 dead and 65 wounded.

JANA's international affairs editor commented on this by saying: "The Jamahiriyah always stands by revolutionary movements that fight for liberation and independence by supporting them. Due to its constant revolutionary stance, the Jamahiriyah realizes the essential difference between legitimate revolutionary action, which imperialism is trying to defame and harm, and terrorism directed against civilians and innocent persons. Based on this, we believe that the operation carried out during the ceremony commemorating victims of the two world wars, which led to the death and injury of many people, is not a legitimate revolutionary action required by the liberation struggle. On the contrary, it puts revolutionary movements in a critical position and places them in a situation of confrontation with the masses. This operation also provides the imperialist forces with the opportunity to exploit it and awaken the sympathy of the masses."

The editor concluded his commentary by asserting: "Revolutionary violence is necessary to confront imperialist and tyrannical forces. Escalating the process of struggle against these forces is the responsibility of revolutionaries of the world. The nature of terrorism is that of the capitalist system, and it is one of this system's main characteristics. Terrorism is a base colonialist tactic that revolutionary movements should avoid and stay away from."

Envoy to Rome Denies Role in Tremiti Bomb Blast

AU111548 Rome ANSA in English 0821 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] (ANSA) Rome—Libya's Ambassador to Rome Shalqam 'Abd al-Rahman denied "insinuations" that his country was behind last Friday's bomb attack which damaged a lighthouse in the Tremiti Islands, off Italy's southern Adriatic Coast, and said that as his country's representative in this country, he would "never allow Libyans to carry out acts such as the one on the Tremiti Islands", during a press conference held here Tuesday.

The conference was called after the United States' announcement that it would be supplying Stinger missiles to Chad, with whom Libya has been fighting a long drawn out war over disputed border areas.

The Tremiti Island blast, 'Abd al-Rahman told journalists, was "not in Libya's policy line". "Before accusing Libya, you should have the decency to await the results of the enquiry", he said adding, "not only is Libya completely unconnected with the event, and feeling provoked by the accusations, it condemns all acts of this kind which result in civilian deaths, anywhere in the world".

'Abd al-Rahman showed bitterness over speculation that the lighthouse explosion was aimed at destabilising relations between Italy and Libya . "You will be blaming us for road accidents next", he complained.

The Tremiti Islands hit Italian headlines at the end of October when Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was quoted as saying he intended to annex them if Italy did not pay up outstanding war damages.

In his statement on U.S. sales of Stinger missiles to Chad, 'Abd al-Rahman said that the move represented an entry into the war against Libya on the part of the United States. The U.S., he went on, "wants to nourish Chad's hostility against Libya", thus "putting obstacles in the way of all peace initiatives. It not only makes the situation more complicated, but risks turning it into an international affair".

According to the ambassador, Chadian and Libyan troops have withdrawn their own borders, after the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) called for a ceasefire and set up a committee to study border claims by the warring nations. The disputed Aozou Strip is rich in uranium.

The Libyan regime, 'Abd al-Rahman said, "accepts the make-up of the committee, and agrees to stand by its findings". The head of the diplomatic mission went on to display maps dated 1936 from Florence's Colonial Studies Centre showing the Aozou Strip well within the Libyan border.

'Abd al-Rahman also condemned "disinformation to Libya's discredit" over the impounding, last week, of a Panamanian ship in French waters. The *Eksund II* was found to be carrying 150 tonnes of arms, including 20 SAM [surface-to-air] missiles, and Kalashnikov rifles.

French intelligence sources said the weapons has been loaded in Libya and were destined for the Irish Republican Army, fighting British control in Northern Ireland.

The ambassador released a communique in which he "denied categorically reports in the Western press" and said "it is no novelty for the United States and other countries in its wake to allege Libyan involvement in events which investigations subsequently show it has nothing to do with".

Morocco

Hassan Gives Green March Anniversary Speech

LD082320 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2107 GMT 6 Nov 87

[Speech by King Hassan II on the anniversary of the Green March; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Thanks be to the one God, prayers and peace upon our master God's prophets and his followers.

Dear people, today we are celebrating the 12th anniversary of the Green March. The time from then until now has proven to us a very important thing, a priceless truth, a truth that exceeds all value. [passage omitted] You are, dear people, at the level of events and expectations. You are not diverted by feeble news. Your determination is not weakened by hearsay. However, on this occasion, I would like to clarify some points so that you are not confused and so that confusion does not find a way into the minds and ears and cause misunderstanding and bad thinking.

A lot has been said about the international political situation with which we have been involved these last years. We have been, on the security side, controlling the situation. We have not launched any attacks, but have been content with self-defense which is, according to all laws, legitimate. However, in political and international situations there are some elements that are trying to make the Moroccan people and others doubt our Saharan legitimacy. Thank God, our merciful and almighty God has helped us to successfully engage in the fields of security and politics. By being patient, vigilant, and calm, we arrive at a period in which the whole world will know the extent of our credibility, and that our enemies speak lies and drivel.

As you know, dear people, there is no harm done if I go back a little and talk about past events. Morocco's history was placed before the judgments and opinions of the African heads of state. We submitted our problem to the political and historic capacities of the Organization of African Unity [OAU]. We twice went in person to Nairobi and returned with that which you know—that a referendum on the Saharan issue, a clear-cut referendum that everyone would abide by, would take place.

However, some parties thought that the de facto and illegitimate [Saharan Government] could divert us from the right path and destination. But these enemies and foes, perhaps, did not know that Morocco,its king, and its people, will not accept playing around with the law, thank God. These enemies and foes thought that when they voted in a new OAU member we would accept it as reality; that our nerves would collapse and that we would give up our claim. Despite the suffering and deep sadness we felt when we left the OAU, we felt we were leaving a family with whom there are bonds that are deeply rooted in history down through the centuries. When we left the OAU, everyone understood that we had other ways to make the voice of legitimacy heard and to make this legitimacy successful, as well as achievable.

Therefore, we decided to submit the Sahara dossier to the UN. This is because the OAU had become an unsuitable court or referee, as it had recognized a fictitious thing and jumped ahead of an expression by the citizens of their choice of nationality, belonging, and identity.

Naturally, the issue of the Moroccan Sahara was unknown to most people. Therefore, during the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th years we were forced to inform people about our problem. This information was paralleled by multifaceted international problems on all continents. Among such problems ours was perhaps not given sufficient attention in the UN, or the necessary freedom of thinking, so that everyone could concentrate on our issue and recognize it.

However, through patience, perseverance, and hard work, we achieved recognition and reached an important conclusion. First, the issue was discussed in the UN. Second, the issue is now in the hands of the UN Secretary General on orders of this international organization. We consider this a very important victory because it will enable everyone, especially the international community, to distinguish between right and wrong.

We are waiting for the commission, the UN technical commission, to visit our Saharan provinces so that it can see the situation through direct contact with the inhabitants and then assess and analyse it in order to carry out, first, a cease-fire, and then a free plebiscite that will enable our subjects in the Saharan provinces to express clearly and freely their wish to belong to the mother country, Morocco.

We have repeated many times that Morocco will abide by the results of that referendum. Some ask: Could a Moroccan be asked if he is a Moroccan? We reply to this with the following: Yes, this question is absolutely, but not relatively, logical. We Moroccans, within our family, can say what we want; we can be daring because we are running our own affairs and if a mistake or obstacle appears, we gather together to avoid the mistake and overcome the obstacle.

But when the matter concerns the international community, we have to be flexible, use undefeatable arguments, and say: Fine, you deny the Moroccan nature of the Sahara, you deny that the Saharan districts are Moroccan. Fine, we go along with you in these foolish statements, but maintain our belief in our past and present rights. We challenge you, and say if you want to see for yourself another time, come here and witness the truth, not only in the land, but in the hearts of our subjects in the Sahara. When this technical commission visits our districts, it will see the calm and tranquility in Laayoune, Smara, Boujdour, and Dakhla. It will see schools open for all, hospitals available for all. And more important than that, it will find, contrary to every historical precedent, that not a single armed soldier patrols in Saharan towns or villages. Those who say that Morocco is a colonizer have themselves experienced colonialism. How can they not wake up when they see how they lived under colonization and how the Saharan inhabitants live under Moroccan colonization. Thank God, the shopkeeper is running his shop; the student is learning; the pupil is going to school everyday; the manufacturer is manufacturing; and the farmer, yes the farmer, is farming. Better than this, tourists—Moroccans and foreigners—can circle from northern to southern Sahara, from east to west, completely free, without escort by soldiers, policemen, an auxiliary force, or the militia. As the saying goes, the shaykh's donkey has hit an obstacle. And here reality collides with illusion. We have to expect fables, superstition, and escalated campaigns from our adversaries, be it through radio, television, or the newspapers. However, we must remember, as I have always told you: The roof of my house is made of iron and the corner of brick.

Here you are my dear people; you have arrived. I do not say that I have arrived, but that you have arrived because, had I not found in you long-term support and backing, I could not have taken the reigns or confronted for such a long time our enemies and adversaries in the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, and the UN.

However, the time has come to (?declare) what is right, and the international community will know the truth. Namely, that the Saharan war is not a usual war, nor an essential war. And when they stand on the borders they will realize that there is no engagement between two forces. They will see a few inhabitants on one side and massive urbanization on the other. They will write about this; they will acknowledge it and report it to the world conscience.

It is possible for the world conscience to somehow sputter. This is because, as you know my dear people, the votes at the UN are adjusted for size and power; the vote of the smallest equals the vote of the biggest. The only way to distinguish between soundness and unsoundness is for you to weigh the votes on your side, even if they are fewer in number than the valueless votes against you. It is also possible for some to ignore this technical committee's report. It is possible that this report and its results will be subject to bad intentions.

However, the important thing is for man to put his foot in the stirrup. If the rider is a good one, like you dear people, he will mount the horse as soon as he puts his foot in the stirrup. Now our foot is in the stirrup.

When I say this to you, I do not say it as wishful thinking. I say it because I have gone through difficult circumstances since the days of the protectorate. I thank God that my generation and I had the honor of living during that period of great heroism. We lived through it without independence, without means, without an army, without any power. However, that period when we were defenseless and had nothing taught us that putting the foot in the stirrup enables one to control his mount and to ride it freely and peacefully.

Therefore, dear people, we have to receive this anniversary with optimism and coolness. We also have to receive it with our ears closed to what we will hear or read because the opponent is obstinate and does not want to submit to the truth. Truth, after God, is the one thing that vanquishes everybody. God is the only one who vanquishes everybody, and he created a successor in vanquishing everybody, which is the truth. [passage omitted]

Now we have to be calm and cool and facilitate the mission of this technical commission. We must remain cautious spectators until the time comes, which is not far away. It is in the near future. We will all keep repeating this verse from God's book: And it was due from us to aid those who believed. God has spoken the truth. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Sudan

Government Studies Alleged Security Breach

EA111940 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers issued a statement today about reports in some newspapers of a cassette, the contents of which concern a government minister and a violation of national security. The statement says that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi formed a committee on 3 September, headed by a judge of the Supreme Court and comprised of two lawyers, the director of criminal investigation, and the public prosecutor. [Words indistinct] the committee studied the matter from all sides and submitted its report yesterday. The report and its recommendations are being studied. The statement says that in order to safeguard procedures, the General Secretariat appeals to everyone to refrain from grappling with this issue until the recommendations of the committee are known. The statement adds that any information or news on this issue not emanating from this study will give an (?incomplete) picture and will cause distortion.

Finally, the statement requests that everyone withhold comment on the issue because, in light of the committee's recommendations, the government is (?tackling) it with truthfulness and seriousness for the sake of our country's reputation.

Tunisia

National Assembly Sends Message to Ben Ali

LD101639 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Before beginning deliberations on the draft bills on its agenda, the Tunisian National Assembly sent a note this morning to President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, in which all the deputies expressed their appreciation for the transfer of authority in keeping with constitutional legality. The note also praised the ideas conveyed in the president of the Republic's statement and stressed the favorable response of all the deputies to this forward-looking statement. A number of deputies had earlier asked to speak to express their satisfaction, and thus the satisfaction and happiness of the people whom they represent, with the revolutionary change which has just taken place in the country.

The deputies also highlighted the importance of this great historic period, through which our country has been living since last Saturday, and emphasized their support for the methodical program included in the president's statement, which was characterized by courage, boldness, and sincere ideas reflecting the realities of the country. It was also characterized by a clear vision of the future and defined the objectives to be pursued by Tunisia, a country of institutions and law.

Moreover, the deputies stated their satisfaction with his excellency's decision to postpone the State Security Court's hearings, which will spare the country much hatred and resentment and will reinforce unity and cohesion in the nation. This nation has put its hopes in the hands of a resolute and bold man who knows how to save the situation. The deputies also praised the constitutional way in which the president settled matters, thereby beginning a stable political future for Tunisia which will enable the constitutional institutions to fully assume their role. They praised as well the expressions of loyalty and gratitude contained in the statement made by the president of the Republic, a man who is aware of the responsibilities awaiting him. The deputies also blessed the changes and modifications which his excellency intends to introduce with regard to the Constitution and the press law, and reiterated their congratulations to the president and to his government, which is headed by Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche.

The National Assembly then began to examine the draft bills put before it for discussion.

Foreign Minister Rules Out Major Policy Changes

JN110920 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 87 p 3

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporters]

[Excerpt] Amman—Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri Tuesday pledged more openness by the new government in dealing with political opposition in Tunisia but ruled out major changes in the government's domestic and foreign policies.

He stressed that the deposition of President Habib Bourguiba came as "a constitutional evolution" after the president was declared incapable of ruling the country. He pointed out, however, that "Bourguibism" remained the cornerstone of Tunisian politics.

He said the decision of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to proclaim power came after a team of doctors declared Mr Bourguiba incapable of continuing his responsibilities as president.

Mr Mestiri told a press conference that "there will be more political openness, dynamism and action" in Tunisia's approach to domestic and regional problems.

"We consider this a new page in Tunisia" he said, but he added that "there will be no general amnesty for political prisoners in the country. We will not allow the use of religion for political purposes and for committing crimes." However, Mr Mestiri told reporters "the possibilities of openness are there."

The Tunisian foreign minister pointed to what he described as "preventive detention" of political activists, motivated by the government's concern for their safety, after Mr Ben Ali's takeover, but said that the new government would study their cases individually prior to their release. He said that this would also apply to former Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, who was dismissed from office by Mr Bourguiba last year. Mr Mzali is now reportedly living in exile in Paris.

"There will be more dialogue with the other political parties," Mr Mestiri said. "The government will not impose its views," he added.

He stressed that the process of rapprochement between Tunisia and neighbouring states, such as Libya, would continue as it was initiated during Mr Bourguiba's rule. "The difference is that, now, the process will be a little faster," Mr Mestiri said.

On the question of restoring diplomatic ties with Cairo, the foreign minister said "there will be more contacts but no diplomatic ties" for the time being.

Mr Mestiri, who heads his country's delegation to the Arab summit here, refused comment on summit deliberations, but said that he had informed Arab leaders of the ongoing changes in Tunis.

He affirmed that the new president has approved amendments to Tunisia's Constitution, including an amendment disallowing the declaration of president-for-life, as Mr Bourguiba had proclaimed himself.

Responding to a question, the Tunisian foreign minister stressed that the present Tunisian leader "had no political role" in crackdowns on political opposition in the country. [passage omitted]

PLO Still Welcome

JN101837 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Amman]

[Text] During a news conference held at his place of residence in Amman, the new Tunisian foreign minister, Mahmoud Mestiri, has said that Tunisia will not restore ties with Egypt at present, but will preserve its current good relations with Cairo. He also said that the new Tunisian regime will adhere to former President Bourguiba's line and policies and that the PLO will still be welcome in Tunisia.

Commenting on the internal situation in his country, Mestiri said that the fundamentalists have lost much of their influence and importance.

Finally, Mestiri affirmed that the new regime will work to develop Tunisia's relations with Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, and Libya, and will work to the utmost to effect reconciliation among the Arab Maghreb states.

Mestiri declined to answer any questions on the Amman summit because he was not authorized to do so.

Prime Minister Holds Press Conference

LD101940 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche held a news conference this afternoon at the guest palace in Carthage to discuss President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's assumption of the country's leadership and the direction government work will take under the new regime.

The prime minister noted that it is a historic period in Tunisia in light of the new president undertaking the affairs of supreme authority on 7 November. The change was carried out by legal and constitutional means. He noted that the state of the political system was characterized by great instability.

Hedi Baccouche added that various sectors of society consolidated the establishment of legality by their positions on President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's assumption of supreme authority in the country, which was carried out in [words indistinct] and commitment to the republic; a position expressed by all political trends through their messages and statements in support of President Ben Ali. Moreover, most of Tunisia's friends in the neighboring and Arab countries, Europe, and America welcomed this great constitutional change.

The prime minister pointed out that with this change our country will experience new reforms and draw a fresh breath in the work of development after 30 years of independence. There are many work methods which need revising, including education. He said that the government is determined to effect political diversity on constitutional principles. It is important that we agree on a law for the organization of political parties and their activities. Technical work regarding this has commenced and a dialogue will soon begin on this question.

With regard to a revision of the press law, he stressed that the objective is active participation by journalists in drawing the attention of government figures. This is to introduce ideological diversity to Tunisian society in view of the existence of differences in thinking.

The government will also open a debate on the Constitution in order to put into practice what was stated by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali when he stressed that there is no room for a Presidency-for-life. He also voiced his belief in the sovereignty of the people.

Hedi Baccouche talked about the economy and the push given to the economic reform program in the past few days. He pointed out that development is a difficult task and political determination must be unleashed. There are plans to introduce a new and real vitality in employment, investment, and the establishment of projects by organizing enterprises at social and economic levels.

Before replying to the questions of journalists, Hedi Baccouche said that these are political outlines which President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali is intending to accomplish [words indistinct] the government and institutions, and we call on the people to support it. This is an internal policy based on the country's Constitution and it is backed by a foreign policy which has not changed. It has not changed because our external options were adopted within the framework of a strategic perception to safeguard Tunisia's security and stability. There is no room in it for interference in the affairs of others. This is coupled with realism in our cooperation with all countries.

Replying to journalists' questions, Hedi Baccouche said that the leader Bourguiba was taken to his residence in La Mornaghia yesterday evening, accompanied by his doctors and those looking after him, as well as his niece. He listens to the radio, watches television, and reads newspapers.

In reply to journalists' questions, the prime minister said that there is no room for retreat on the question of personal matters [ahwal al-shakhssiyah].

New President Receives Bourguiba's Son

LD120022 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali received Mr Habib Bourguiba, Jr. at the government palace in Kasbah at noon yesterday. Habib Bourguiba Jr. made a statement after the meeting:

The president summoned me to explain the status which I still enjoy, as far as he is concerned, and what he did in the interests of Tunisia and the history of Habib Bourguiba himself. The president allowed me to express my opinions on some issues, according to my experience.

Gulf Daily Says Party Officials Detained

LD111210 Kuwait KUNA in English 1054 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 11 (KUNA)—More than 50 Tunisian prominent figures of the ruling Socialist Destourian (Constitution) Party are detained in one of the military barracks near the Tunisian capital for opposing the bloodless coup of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali last Saturday according to a local daily. Daily *Al-Ittihad* quoted Tunisian sources in Paris as saying that the political figures were planning to overthrow Zine El Abidine Ben Ali but they will not be put to trial because of the new regime desire to open a new page with its opponents.

A number of Tunisian political figures, residing in Paris, decided to return home after the deposal of former President Habib Bourguiba.

Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche is currently contacting these political exiles to secure their return to Tunisia.

Detention Denied

LD111354 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1143 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Tunis, 11 Nov (KUNA)—High-ranking Tunisian sources here denied today that 50 officials of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party are under arrest in a military barrack in Tunis.

The sources informed KUNA that these reports are groundless. On the other hand, Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche stated in a press conference yesterday that seven or eight officials are under arrest for precautionary reasons and for their own good.

The sources confirmed that the wife of Mr Mohamed Mzali, the former Tunisian prime minister, is in Tunis getting ready to travel to her husband after the issuance of passports to her and her sons by Tunisian authorities.

The sources also said that Mr Mzali has not yet applied to return. However, he is one of the Tunisian individuals abroad whose situation is presently being examined for return to the homeland.

It was pointed out by the sources that any Tunisians who are out of the country are able to return with a conditional release in order to reconsider the sentences which were issued against them while abroad and to appeal these sentences to Tunisian justice for a decision on their cases.

Western Sahara

Communique Responds to King Hassan's Speech

LD082346 Algiers APS in English 1332 GMT 8 Nov 87

["SDAR Appeal"—APS headline]

[Text] SDAR (LT), 8/11/87 (APS)—Morocco's king has once again unveiled his real position about the referendum of self determination of the Saharan people in a declaration he made on Friday on the occasion of the anniversary of the military invasion of Western Sahara, a communique of the Saharan minister of information issued Saturday indicated.

This should be, he said, a plebiscite "that would enable our nationals to express their pertaining to Morocco". Thus, the UN and OAU commission is invited to notice in occupied zones of Western Sahara the Moroccan fait accompli, the communique added pointing out that King Hassan II has declared that he was even ready to reject the report of the commission. In the same declaration, the Moroccan king showed that he was haunted by the return of peace and convinced on the other hand of the primacy of force on law.

The Polisario Front and the Saharan Government, the communique indicated, will do all they can to denounce this.

On the same occasion, we denounce with the same energy the colonial practices of the Moroccan authorities in occupied zones which look like concentration camps where the Saharans are taken as hostages circled by 200,000 soldiers, and youngsters enroled by forces in the army otherwise they will be taken to prison.

In this immense prison, a great number of Moroccan colonizers recently brought from Morocco live in occupied towns and circle the Saharan population who are facing an unbearable psychological climate made of terror and intimidation. In this context, the policemen have changed their uniforms against the jelaba (traditional cloth) so as not to be recognized.

Thus the Polisario Front and the Saharan Government launch a pressing appeal to the international public opinion, and countries and organizations all in the world in order to condemn the colonial [words indistinct] of the Moroccan regime in Western Sahara. Such a behaviour, is opposite to the holding of a free and credible referendum of self determination in Western Sahara, the communique concluded.

Inter-Gulf Affairs

GCC Chiefs of Staff Hold Session in Riyadh

LD111923 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Riyadh, 11 Nov (SPA)—The GCC chiefs of staff concluded their meeting at noon today at the Armed Forces' mess [in Riyadh].

Major General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, chief of staff of the UAE Armed Forces and chairman of the meeting, gave an address at the concluding session. He thanked the GCC Permanent Secretariat for its efforts at this meeting.

Colonel Mubarak ibn 'Abd al-Rahman Al Thani, chief of staff of the Qatari Armed Forces, also made a speech. He thanked the chiefs of staff for their cooperation in making the meeting a success.

The GCC chiefs of staff began their seventh meeting yesterday morning.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Pronounces Arab Summit 'Success'

EA120958 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and his accompanying delegation returned to Aden from Amman this evening. They had participated in the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman from 8 to 11 November.

The brother chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium gave a statement to ANA on his return in which he expressed satisfaction at the positive results of the extraordinary Arab summit. He pointed out that this conference was characterized by the positive spirit of the Arab leaders and a feeling of the great responsibility they bear in confronting the divisiveness and disruption that prevailed in the Arab ranks last year.

Al-'Attas said that Arab attendance at the summit was complete, and that a positive attitude played a total and effective role in creating suitable and helpful circumstances for its successs. He also positively assessed the resolutions contained in the final statement. The most important of these was unanimity on the need to revive, maintain, and continuously develop Arab solidarity. Brother Al-'Attas explained that all those in attendance had completely agreed on the important issues currently facing the Arab world. Our delegation played a prominent role in achieving the success in Amman. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

YAR President Arrives, Comments on Amman Summit

LD111845 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1651 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Tabuk, 11 Nov (SPA)—YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Tabuk this evening. He was received at Tabuk airport by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard; and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general. [passage omitted]

The YAR president is accompanied by Dr Hasan Muhammad Makki, deputy prime minister; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; Colonel Mujahid Abu al-Shawarib, deputy prime minister; Mr Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for affairs of Yemeni unity; and Mr 'Ali Muhammad al-Ans, director of the President's Office.

His excellency the Yemeni president made a statement to SPA in which he expressed his happiness at visiting the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He added that his visit is in response to an invitation from his brother, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques. The YAR president stated: This is a valuable opportunity to meet and discuss various issues concerning our two fraternal countries and peoples. It is a very good chance to review the development and strengthening of brotherly relations. We will also discuss expanding bilateral cooperation to benefit the two fraternal peoples and consolidate their common desire to develop cooperation and coordination in all fields.

This visit is an opportunity for us to review the current Arab situation and the circumstances facing the Arab nation and the Gulf region, given the dangerous escalation brought about by the Iraq-Iran war. Our talks will help to consolidate the positive and practical steps taken at the Amman emergency summit to confront all plots and schemes facing the Arab nation.

The Amman conference proved that we are still able to attain goals, due to joint Arab efforts; that the Arab nation remains in good condition; and that it is capable, even under very difficult circumstances, of overcoming negative influences. The Arab nation is able to undertake practical steps to strengthen its ranks, achieve Arab solidarity, stand solidly on a platform of agreement and harmony, and meet the various dangers, challenges, and conspiracies facing it.

Amman Resolutions 'New Phase' in Arab Action

LD120013 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2122 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 11 Nov (SPA)—An SPA political commentator writes: Those who followed events at the emergency Arab summit, which concluded this afternoon in Amman, understood three things from the start:

the huge responsibilities faced by the Arab leaders, the dangers they are exposed to, and the sort of resolutions they should come up with in a serious and sincere attempt to reach a joint Arab stand determining the course of Arab action in all fields.

Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, was and still is one of the leading countries that devotes all its talents and resources to closing and uniting Arab ranks. This is because it strongly believes that the strength of the Arabs stems from their agreement, their solidarity from their unity, and their victory over their enemies from their unity.

Saudi Arabia has indicated in more than one situation and venue, and still declares, that weakness is the result of division, loss is due to dispersal, and feebleness is caused by discord.

However, these calls, praise be to God, formerly found friendly ears among the leaders of the Arab countries. Their only wish was that their dreams of solidarity and power would come together and be transformed from mere hopes to a tangible, practical reality in joint Arab action for attaining harmony and agreement.

This became evident today in the resolutions adopted by the extraordinary Arab summit. Saudi Arabia believes that these documents constitute a new phase in the history of sincere Arab action. This action faces up to its historic and political responsibilities with open eyes and faith in God, and with the ability of the Arab nation to rise above all formal disputes and comprehensively search for intrinsic solidarity and practical cohesion.

Saudi Arabia firmly believes that the Amman summit resolutions characterize the aspirations of the Arab nation and give it the opportunity to confront the dangers to which it is exposed. The Kingdom is strongly convinced that the meeting of the Arab leaders and their agreement on these resolutions was based on an objective viewpoint. This view considers solidarity to be the basis of joint Arab action, which embodies the unified stands of the Arab nation and provides it with the elements of power and invulnerability.

The Arab leaders—in having expressed their concern over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, in having expressed their displeasure over the Iranian regime's insistence on prolonging this war and provoking and threatening countries of the Arab Gulf region, and in having denounced Iran for occupying Iraqi territory—are completely convinced that Iran should accept UN Security Council Resolution 598 and called for its full implementation. In addition to this, they appealed to the international community to shoulder its responsibilities, to exert effective efforts, and to adopt the necessary measures to force the Iranian regime to respond to calls for peace.

Perhaps this unanimous attitude will stop the hemorrhage of this war and establish peace in the Arabian Gulf region. Perhaps it might confirm that the Arab leaders adopt the same attitude toward the dangers this war exposes the Arab nation to, just as the summit expressed its solidarity with Iraq, its appreciation of UN Security Council Resolution 598, and its response to all peace initiatives. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Diplomatic Ties Reestablished With Egypt 11 Nov

JN111814 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1740 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Nov (WAKH)—The UAE has decided to restore full diplomatic relations with Egypt as of today.

This came in a statement made by a responsible source at the UAE Foreign Ministry and reported by WAM this evening.

Saddam Husayn Returns From Amman Summit

JN111634 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] President leader Saddam Husayn returned to Baghdad today after leading the Iraqi delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Amman, the summit of reconciliation and accord. Proceedings there concluded today.

Papers Praise Amman Resolutions

JN120932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—Three local Iraqi newspapers assert that the extraordinary Arab summit that concluded in Amman yesterday was truly a summit of reconciliation and accord. The papers also write that results of the extraordinary conference were truly great and its resolutions historic, successful, and comprehensive.

In today's editorial, *Al-Thawrah* says: "The Amman summit resolutions were equal to the historic responsibility placed on the Arab kings and presidents. They primarily embody the faith and the firm and common belief that Arab solidarity is a decisive and basic condition for protecting the nation's rights and legitimate interests. This is also true for defending its security, dignity, and survival."

Al-Thawrah adds: The extraordinary Arab summit's declaration of solidarity with and support for Iraq in its confrontation with Iranian aggression, its solidarity with Kuwait, and its condemnation of the Iranian regime's criminal actions in the vicinity of the Mecca Mosque mean that the Arab nation has risen to defend itself. It has done this by adopting a responsible stand on the Iranian aggression against its territory and borders. The newspaper notes that the Arab who declares solidarity with his Arab brothers is in fact showing solidarity with himself and with his own cause.

In its editorial, *Al-Jumhuriyah* writes that the Amman Arab summit produced outstanding results. The paper says this extraordinary conference has expressed its firm solidarity in the face of challenges, evil intentions, and aggression—especially Iranian aggression—against Iraq and the Arab countries.

The paper adds: This is how our nation acts when its leaders agree on what is correct, and discuss its issues thoroughly, without fear of differences, and in a frank and friendly atmosphere free of excess emotion.

Al-Jumhuriyah concludes by declaring: Finally, if there is anything to add, it is to applaud the noble efforts of Jordan, of its king, and of its people so that the conference could convene and achieve such outstanding results.

In its editorial today, *Al-Iraq* lauds the final statement of the summit, saying it is clear, frank, and strongly condemns the persistence of the Iranian regime in continuing its aggressive war against Iraq.

The paper says the results of the summit, which confirmed the need to further strengthen Arab solidarity and understanding to serve all causes of the entire Arab nation, call for satisfaction and future optimism. The paper asserts that these results have also established new bridges of dialogue, understanding, and amity among the Arab brothers.

Al-Iraq concludes by calling for an Arab zeal similar to that which prevailed during the extraordinary conference. This is so resolutions from the final statement can be implemented and results achieved, since intentions are good and there is a sincere desire to serve the goals of the Arab nation.

Republic 'Ready' To Send Forces to Gulf States

JN111512 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 10 Nov 87 pp 1, 26

[Excerpt] Amman—[Passage omitted on proceedings of Amman summit] In an exclusive statement to *Al-Anba'*, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said that Iraq is ready to dispatch a portion of its military forces to Kuwait or any other Arab Gulf state to contribute to deterring any Iranian aggression. He added that Iraq expects a fresh Iranian assault against its territory at any time due to large Iranian concentrations. [passage omitted]

Further Reportage on Gulf Combat Operations

'Maritime Target' Hit 10 Nov

JN101522 Bagdhad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1512 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 10 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To implement the wish of our people to cut off the oil supplies the Iranian regime devotes to its aggressive actions against our homeland, people, and nation, our aircraft today at 1035 [0735 GMT] dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. Our planes then returned safely to the homeland, in God's care.

[Dated] 10 November 1987

2d 'Maritime Target' Struck

JN101856 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1843 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 10 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sturdy men of our gallant Air Force carry out the will of our great people to cut off the oil supplies of the Zionist Iranian regime at any time. At 1845 [1545 GMT], our aircraft launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. They scored an accurate, effective blow. This is the second target hunted by our brave hawks today. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 10 November 1987

3d Maritime Target 'Destroyed'

JN110714 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 11 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To prevent the Iranian regime from using its oil resources to carry out aggression against our country and nation, and to implement the will of our people to cut off the enemy's oil supplies, our Air Force aircraft at 0730 [0430 GMT] today dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. This is the third target our rapacious hawks have destroyed over the past 24 hours. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 11 November 1987

Communique No 2,907 Issued

JN111224 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1159 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Communique No 2,907 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 November]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] In reply to the Iranian regime's rejection of calls for peace, in answer to its continued aggression against our people, territory, and nation, and to deprive that regime of everything that assists it in continuing its reckless criminal course, the aircraft of our heroic Air Force today carried out the following courageous missions:

1. At 1140 [0840 GMT], our aircraft carried out a violent raid on selected oil production and pumping targets in the Pazanan oil fields. Our hawks destroyed their targets and set them ablaze.

2. At the same time, other aircraft raided the same Pazanan oil fields to destroy other selected oil production and pumping targets. Our hawks also destroyed these targets and left them burning.

3. A number of our planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0730.

After carrying out all of these missions, our aircraft returned safely to base in God's care. Let the Khomeyniites know they will never be able to avoid complete destruction at the hands of the brave Iraqis unless they accept peace. Otherwise, they will reap only defeat and destruction.

Blessed be our heroic Air Force—commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Praise be to God who grants us victory over the unjust ones.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 November 1987

Downing of Aircraft Denied

JN111758 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Nov (INA)—Iraq has denied Iranian claims concerning the downing of an Iraqi fighter plane yesterday. A military spokesman today told INA that all Iraqi aircraft engaged in missions yesterday returned safely to base. The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to supply evidence to prove their claims.

Communique No 2,908 Issued

JN111808 Bagdhad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Communique No 2,908 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioante. Our valiant Armed Forces continue to inflict further losses on the aggressors. A list of their activities for last night and today follows:

1. Eight rascals were killed and three infantry positions were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

2. Four enemy centers were destroyed and their occupants killed in the II Army Corps central sector. Four infantry positions were destroyed in the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces.

3. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, two infantry positions were destroyed, one vehicle was burned and destroyed, and one ammunition dump was detonated.

4. Two enemy personnel were killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. One infantry position was destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

5. Our units in the VII Army Corps sector opened fire on enemy positions opposite themselves and achieved the following: four infantry positions and two posts destroyed; one machinegun emplacement destroyed and its occupants killed or wounded; one vehicle destroyed; and one SPG-9 gun emplacement destroyed and an ammunition dump blown up.

6. Last night the criminal enemy shelled the Khurmal area with long-range artillery. This shelling martyred one civilian and injured one child. Mercy for our martyr and a speedy recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 November 1987

Another 'Maritime Target' Hit

JN111954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1919 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Nov (INA)—Iraqi warplanes today raided a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast. They dealt it an accurate and effective blow and then returned safely to base.

A military spokesman told INA tonight that Iraqi aircraft launched a raid on this maritime target, the second maritime target attacked by Iraqi warplanes today, at 2020 [1720 GMT].

Attack on Civilians Denied

JN111956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1941 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Nov (INA)—Iraq today affirmed that Iraqi Air Force operations have so far been confined to military targets as well as economic and vital targets linked to the war effort.

A military spokesman told INA tonight that despite possessing the ability to do so, Iraq has so far refrained from attacking residential targets. This is because it distinguishes between the Iranian people and their regime, as well as due to a previous request by the Iranian opposition.

The spokesman said that if the Iranian rulers insist on continuing their crimes, nothing will prevent us from replying in kind. We hope we will not be forced into this.

3d Marine Target 'Finished Off'

JN120606 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 12 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In affirming our firm and legitimate right to cut off the oil arteries whose revenues are used by the Iranian rulers for evil purposes, our rapacious hawks once again returned to the skies of the Arabian Gulf and launched a successful raid. They struck a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0445 [0145 GMT] today and finished off their third target over the past 24 hours. After dealing the target an accurate and effective blow, the hawks and their aircraft returned safely to the homeland, in God's care.

[Dated] 12 November 1987

Iranian Tanker 'Confirmed' Hit

JN120828 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Shipping sources in the Arabian Gulf today confirmed that the Greek-flagged Iranian oil tanker *Fortuneship L* was struck by an Iraqi missile yesterday evening while near the Iranian coast. The shipping source said the 268,079-tonne tanker sustained heavy damage in the Iraqi raid.

It is worth noting that our Air Force dealt an accurate and effective blow to a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast yesterday evening. This was one of three maritime targets struck over the past 24 hours.

Shamir, Peres React to Amman Summit Results

TA120758 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Nov 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] Differing assessments of the Arab summit resolutions surfaced at last in Jerusalem, with the Foreign Ministry finding grounds for the qualified "satisfaction" with the Amman resolutions and the Prime Minister's Office generally condemning them.

Foreign Ministry sources last night stressed the renewal of relations by the Gulf states, including the Saudis, with Egypt. "We see this as recognition of the fact of the Israeli-Egyptian peace," said one official. He noted that the "cause" of the severing of relations in 1978-79 had been the peace agreements— yet these still stood, and relations were being resumed.

"Moreover, these are states that can help Egypt out economically," added the official. "It was never in our interest that Egypt be isolated in the Arab world. It is natural that Egypt be restored to its place of centrality and dominance (in the Arab world). This is a positive development."

As to the summit's resolutions on the PLO—"the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people" and a necessary participant in the prospective international peace conference—the ministry sources said that "these were only to be expected. They merely repeat the phraseology of past Arab summits."

The sources pointed out with satisfaction that the summit called for PLO participation in the conference "on the basis of equality," a formula "that leaves Husayn with room for maneuver. This allows for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The resolution did not call for independent or separate PLO representation at the conference."

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, speaking in Petah Tiqva last night, said he believed the summit resolutions, "did not leave the door closed" on the peace process.

In his initial reaction to the summit resolutions, Prime Minister Shamir last night implicitly praised the decision of the Gulf states to renew their ties with Egypt but explicitly condemned almost everything else.

In a speech to a joint Israel appeal mission from Britain in Jerusalem, Shamir said that the assembled 20 Arab heads of government, "who are technically at war with Israel," knew of Israel's desire for peace and for negotiation "without preconditions." But "it seems they have not changed their stands. They speak of mobilizing the Arab world against Israel and of convening an international conference with the participation of the PLO."

Shamir added that "peace is stronger than belligerency and boycott. And the Arab states that condemned Egypt for making peace with Israel are now resuming relations with that country."

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office stressed the summit resolutions' provisions for PLO participation in the conference and PLO representation of the Palestinians as the outstanding, negative features of the Amman get-together.

Shamir on Egyptian Ties

TA112046 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2030 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sees the renewal of relations between Egypt and five other Arab countries, who announced at the end of the Amman summit that they would restore diplomatic relations with Egypt, as positive. He said that this proves that no Arab country that makes a peace agreement with us in the future has anything to fear from an Arab boycott.

Concerning the incorporation of the Palestinians in the peace conference, the prime minister told our correspondent 'Ofer Bardugo that he does not see any change in the attitude of Arab countries toward Israel, but he hopes that in the future this attitude, too, will change for the better.

Abu Ghazalah Remarks on Peace Favorably Received

TA111017 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Nov 87 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Egyptian Defense Minister General Abu Ghazalah has said that the pan-Arab defense pact does not contradict the peace treaty with Israel.

Gen Abu Ghazalah's remarks were a source of great satisfaction in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem in view of the fact that a few months ago Abu Ghazalah reportedly made statements to the effect that Egypt must also prepare for the eventuality of war with Israel. The Egyptian defense minister made this declaration at the end of last week during a tour of a weapons exhibition in Cairo.

Envoy Invited to USSR Fete as 'Signal of Thaw'

TA110558 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Nov 87 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] In another signal of a thaw in Soviet-Israeli relations, the Soviet ambassador to Montevideo hosted his Israeli counterpart at the annual October Revolution Day celebrations last weekend and shook his hand, referring to the absence of diplomatic ties as "unreasonable."

Foreign Ministry officials said that this was—"as far as we can remember"—the first time since 1967 that a Soviet diplomat has officially invited an Israeli ambassador to an October Revolution anniversary party.

When the invitation from Igor Lapatiyev reached Eli'ezer Palmor, the Israeli ambassador quickly contacted the Soviet Embassy to find out whether a mistake had been made. "No," said the Soviets, "you are, indeed, invited."

Ministry officials interpreted the invitation as "a local initiative" by Lapatiyev based on an apparent general guideline by Moscow to its ambassadors stating that there has been a thaw in bilateral relations and that a certain display of amiability towards Israeli diplomats would not be out of place. Lapatiyev apparently interpreted the guideline more liberally than his colleagues: No other Soviet ambassador invited Israeli diplomats to the October Revolution Day celebrations.

Palmor reported to Jerusalem that he was "warmly" received by Lapatiyev.

But, the Soviets recently "hardened" their position on an international conference and insist on PLO participation, sources in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday.

The sources were reacting to a report from Washington yesterday that an anonymous senior Israeli official—possibly Nimrod Novik, Foreign Minister Peres's foreign policy adviser—had said that the Soviets recently softened their positions on the conference.

The sources in the Prime Minister's Office said that in the recent talks in Moscow between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and Soviet officials, the Soviets had reiterated that the conference must be empowered to decide on a solution to the conflict and that the Soviet Union would not attend if the PLO was barred from attending.

PRC President Meets With Ambassador to France

TA101625 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] The president of the PRC met with Ovadya Sofer, Israeli ambassador to France, at a public function. The president told the ambassador that although there are no diplomatic relations between the two countries, China has a deep regard for Israel.

Abu Nidal Group Said Emerging From Underground

TA111210 Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 11 Nov 87 p 9

[Article by Ehud Ya'ari: "Abu Nidal Coming Out of the Underground"]

[Text] The abduction of the yacht *Silco* is the first terrorist operation staged by members of "Fatah—the Revolutionary Council" since they began coming out of their deep underground.

Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, has in the past commanded an undercover network of well-camouflaged hit teams, but last year he decided to surface and flex his muscles in public. Instead of well-trained hit teams who do not identify themselves as members of his organization until they are caught, the group is now making more orthodox appearances.

An overt militia has been set up in Lebanon, with uniforms and a flag, and its officers grant interviews to the local press. Instead of stencils, which exude an aura of mystery, their weekly is printed on slick paper in beautiful colors.

In the last PNC session in Algiers, Abu Nidal's old-time (and very talkative) spokesman 'Atif Abu-Bakr walked down the corridors without sunglasses or a headdress. Abu-Bakr is the man who threatened Oliver North and caused his trouble over the sophisticated security fence built around his house in Virginia.

In addition, over the last few months the group's leaders have been conducting their political activities in the open: They have visited the offices of other movements in Beirut accompanied by photographers and have even held a festive ceremony to sign protocols on cooperation with Arab parties such as the "Syrian Nationals" [not further identified], the architects of the kamikaze drivers system.

Moreover, while Abu Nidal entrenches himself in his hideout (in Libya?), other leaders, happy to be rid of the trappings of the underground, have begun cropping up lately. Apparently, they are the masterminds of the yacht's abduction this week. Four of them deserve attention:

—Mustafa Nizar [last name as published]: Abu Nidal's man in Damascus. According to various testimonies, he was expelled to Al-Biqa' as part of Al-Asad's efforts to reingratiate himself with the United States. It is said that Nizar is the group's most sophisticated operations man.

—'Abd al-Rahman 'Isa: Theoretically, he deals more with the political sphere, particularly with the group's close ties with Bulgaria and Poland.

—Mansur Haddad: A young rising star of whom little is publicly known.

—Walid Khalid: The man who announced the hijacking of the yacht has recently begun emerging as Abu Nidal's replacement in the sphere of inter-Arab activities. He spends most of his time in west Beirut.

The latest operation shows that the group has adopted the methods used by its rivals in the PLO: a hijacking that is followed by public admission of responsibility for bargaining purposes and for propaganda gains.

Even without specific information, one thing is clear to me: Abu Nidal's men could not conceivably have operated on their own. They do not have a sufficiently solid base in Beirut to secure the well-being of hostages and to hold news conferences under the nose of the Syrian soldiers. They are sure to have partners who, perhaps, say their prayers together with Khomeyni.

Reconciliation With PLO Noted

TA101330 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] After a year's respite, the Abu Nidal terrorist group is in the headlines again. Since the murderous operation in September 1986 at the Istanbul Neve Shalom synagogue in which 22 Jews were killed, the organization has undergone various changes in its structure, methods of operation, and strategy.

Reliable sources report that clandestine meetings took place during this period between the Abu Nidal group and Yasir 'Arafat's PLO. Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabri al-Banna, met with 'Arafat's deputy Salah Khalaf (Abu 'Ayyad) in the course of the PNC session in Algeria.

Another meeting took place in Tripoli, Libya. The purpose of the meetings was to bring about a reconciliation between the two organizations after more than 10 years of hostility, antagonism, and mutual assassinations.

It seems that the two organizations have managed to arrive at some manner of "understanding" under a framework in which Abu Nidal has agreed to curtail his group's activity abroad against European, U.S., Israeli, and Jewish targets. In return, he has Yasir 'Arafat's permission to act freely in refugee camps in southern Lebanon.

Among his other activities, 50-year old Al-Banna, a native of Yafo, set up his own militia operating in one of 'Arafat's strongholds, the town of Sidon.

The establishment of the militia shifted the emphasis of the group's operations. Until then, the group relied on a clandestine and departmentalized structure of about 200 activists. The organization has now grown and includes some 700 fighters. Its political acitivity has been a success with the young generation in Palestinian refugee camps.

The recent operation in the Mediterranean attests to planning ability, boldness, and an element of surprise in the choice of targets, all of which have always been characteristic of the Abu Nidal group. Abu Nidal's ability to carry out maritime operations had not been known until now.

The understanding with 'Arafat arouses the suspicion that the latest operation was carried out, if not in full coordination with Force 17—which oversees the PLO naval operations and has the necessary vessels at its disposal—then at least with its tacit approval.

The latest incident in the Mediterranean is intended to draw the attention of the Arab leaders convened in Amman to the Palestinian problem. This incident actually serves the interests of Syria, Libya, and the PLO itself. These three parties would like to draw Arab attention away from the Iran-Iraq war and to warn Husayn away from conducting independent peace negotiations with Israel.

All these aims coincide with the needs of Abu Nidal who, despite denials, still receives military, financial, and logistic aid from the intelligence services of Syria, Libya, and now apparently from the PLO as well.

PLO-Iranian Direction Forecast for Extremists

TA101435 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Nov 87 p 1, 12

[Report by 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Excerpt] An Iranian-PLO joint coordinating command was recently set up with the aim of coordinating and supervising activities by Muslim extremists in the territories. These extremists have grouped together under the name "The Islamic Jihad."

The coordination was the result of the joint interest of Iran, which serves as a model for extremists in the territories, and the PLO, which is interested in exploiting the wave of religious reawakening in the territories for nationalist ends.

The coordination is done by Munir Shafiq, the director of the PLO's planning center in Beirut, who coordinates his moves with the Iranian ambassador in Beirut. Communication between the Iranians and the PLO with the territories is carried out by emissaries who cross the Jordan bridges. In this way they transfer hundreds of thousands of dollars to heads of mosques, especially in Gaza.

In Jordan, the former mufti of Hebron, Shaykh Bayyud al-Tamimi, who was expelled from Hebron in 1969, assists the PLO and the Iranians. Shaykh al-Tamimi controls ties with the Iranians. According to the East Jerusalem newspaper *Al-Fajr*, he visited Tehran several times in the past year to receive instructions and funds for transfer to fundamentalist groups in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Saudis, who do not have any direct ties with the PLO-Iranian joint command, also transfer funds on a regular basis to the Shaykhs in Gaza. These funds are transferred by emissaries, mainly money changers, who cross the Jordan bridges openly and freely.

It is worth pointing out that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, who is secretly forming links with Iran, attacks the Iranians publicly at every opportunity as part of "Arab solidarity" and to pay lip service to his host, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. [passage omitted]

Shin Bet Investigators Suspended for Perjury

TA110953 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Nov 87 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Three Shin Bet investigators who lied about the circumstances of the death of a suspect during questioning were suspended by the head of the Shin Bet 10 days ago. The written report on the death of an Arab suspect submitted to the Landau Commission was based on false testimony given by the three investigators.

When the Shin Bet head learned about the perjury 10 days ago, he instructed that the three be suspended forthwith, and immediately proceeded to report on the affair to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Commission Chairman Justice Moshe Landau, and Attorney General Yosef Harish.

As will be recalled, the issue of perjury by Shin Bet investigators was the main issue with which the Landau Commission dealt and was one of the reasons it was established in the first place.

The Shin Bet head asked the attorney general to handle the affair in the spirit of the Landau Commission recommendations and to take into consideration the gravity of the phenomenon. The attorney general already held his first consultations on the matter yesteray. [passage omitted]

Rabin Comments on 'Optimal' Defense Policy

TA101850 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1645 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today that a modern IDF should concentrate on the development and upgrading of sophisticated weapons rather than on the production of planes and tanks. Our correspondent presents some excerpts from the defense minister's address.

[Begin Rabin recording] The IDF of today should not focus on increasing the number of combat outfits, but rather it should search for ways to upgrade existing ones by acquiring new arms in order to maintain the Army at its present size or perhaps make it somewhat smaller. [end recording]

What holds back the Israeli Army is not the human factor, the number of soldiers, or their motivation. What holds it back at present is weapons. Its strength will double if it begins to use the weapons which are currently being developed, as well as those which have already been completed, but have not been manufactured because of budgetary difficulties. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made these remarks today in an address about an optimal defense policy.

[Begin Rabin recording] Electronics are no less effective than weapons. Timely information and its relay to those who need to have it is today no less effective than arms. [end recording]

Commenting on U.S. aid, Rabin said he did not believe it would be cut but he foresaw a tough struggle in Congress.

Regarding defense exports, Rabin said that the defense industries must diversify their civil and military output so as to be able to compete with foreign arms manufacturers. He added that the defense industries are still too large for the country, particularly in view of the defense budget which, in his opinion, would not increase in the next few years.

Nisim Under Pressure for Shekel-Dollar Link

TA110605 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by Avi Temkin]

[Text] Heavy pressure is being exerted on Finance Minister Moshe Nisim to link the shekel to the dollar and to end the linkage to the currency basket.

Senior officials told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that manufacturers' delegations have been urging Nisim to link the shekel to the dollar. Politicians such as Vice Premier Peres and Deputy Finance Minister 'Adi Amoray are also calling for such a step.

The Bank of Israel still stiffly opposes such a move, arguing that it would boost inflation. The bank also says that linking the shekel to the dollar would lead to a devaluation of the shekel, whose rate would be determined by movement of currencies abroad and not by decisions in Israel.

The rate of exchange for the currency basket was set yesterday by the Central Bank at NIS1.6996, the highest rate since the January 10 devaluation of the shekel and about 1 per cent above last week's rate.

Bank of Israel officials acknowledged that there have been heavy purchases of foreign currency. But they insisted that these purchases were within reasonable limits and did not require steps by the Treasury or the Bank of Israel.

Knesset Rejects No-Confidence Motion on Media

TA111822 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] The Knesset today rejected a motion of no-confidence [submitted 9 November by MAPAM] over the Broadcasting Authority strike. Knesset Members Yosi Sarid and Ya'ir Tzaban told the Knesset that the strike was harming democratic life. [passage omitted]

Bomb Blast Reported at Beirut Airport 11 Nov
NC111540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] An explosive charge went off at the entrance to the Beirut Airport security building at 1600 today. According to preliminary reports, the charge was placed inside a handbag carried by a lady, who was killed instantly. Another man was killed and 12 others injured, including 2 airport security personnel and a number of children. A security soruce says that the charge was not large. Ambulances rushed to the scene to transport the wounded to hospitals.

59 Reported Injured, 1 Killed
NC111516 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] There was an explosion at the Khaldah Airport shortly after 1600 today. One person was killed and 59 others injured. Most of the injured are in serious condition caused by extensive burns. According to preliminary reports, the blast resulted from a large explosive charge inside a bag, placed in front of a telephone booth. Thirty-five of the injured have been taken to Al-Barbir Hospital, while the dead person and 14 other wounded people were taken to Al-Sahil Hospital. Eighteen of the wounded have been taken to the American University Hospital because of their serious condition. Later reports indicate that the Syrian occupation forces have cut off the airport road at the Cocodi point following the blast.

Bomb Carrier Palestinian
NC120710 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] According to security sources, the girl who was carrying the booby-trapped bag that exploded at Beirut Airport yesterday was a Palestinian named Thurayyah Kamal Sahyun. The explosion killed 5 people and wounded approximately 70.

Group Claims Responsibility
NC111616 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A clash broke out between elements from the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade and the Syrian occupation forces within the Beirut Airport perimeter following the explosion there. The Syrian Forces also opened fire on the car of a 6th Brigade captain on the airport road.

In a telephone call to Radio Free Lebanon, a group calling itself the Lebanese Liberation Organization claimed responsibility for the blast.

Exclusive reports say that the Syrian occupation forces prevented Red Cross vehicles from evacuating the wounded and they themselves took them to hospitals, without allowing correspondents near the site of the explosion. The reports add that the Syrians closed the airport road at the Cocodi point in the wake of the blast. Khalid Sa'b, deputy airport director, said none of the airport employees was injured in the explosion. He added that traffic is normal.

French Engineer Hit in Assassination Attempt
NC112045 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] French engineer (Richard Guinbele) was the target of an assassination attempt tonight on the Juniyah-al-Mu'amaltayn route when unidentified gunmen riding in a white BMW car opened fire on him. He was hit in the head by two bullets and was taken to the Sayyidat Lubnan Hospital, where he underwent a 3-hour operation that ended at 2115. The latest medical reports indicate that the French engineer, whose condition was critical before the operation, needs time to respond to the surgery.

He was born in 1941 in (Lance). His wife (Evelyn Guinbele) told the Voice of Lebanon that her husband was shot at after leaving his place of work at one of the araq [local alcoholic drink] factories when he reached the Al-Mu'amaltayn-al-Ghazir junction. She added that those who had evacuated him informed her that her husband was conscious and has told them that there were three gunmen.

Lebanese Forces Condemn Attacks on Foreigners
NC121517 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] A responsible source in the Lebanese Forces has affirmed that the countries and organizations which have been behind the assassinations of foreign nationals in West Beirut, which have kidnapped them and taken them hostage, and which have attacked Western and Arab embassies, forcing most of them to leave the country, are the same ones which murdered the two French soldiers in Al-Dawrah and attempted to assassinate a French national in Al-Ma'amiltayn.

The source added that strict security measures had been taken following the murder of the two French soldiers in Al-Dawrah, thus preventing any harassment to the French military and diplomatic presence. However, those who stand to lose from such measures chased a French subject, who was a long-time resident of Lebanon, in a remote area.

The Lebanese Forces, the source continued, strongly condemn this wicked attempt against a French national and declare that all the active forces in the free Lebanese areas, whether they are official or not, will strengthen their security measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

ICRC, Fatah Comment on Boat Hijack Off Gaza

NC102251 Paris AFP in English 2229 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, Nov 10 (AFP)—A member of an extremist Palestinian group met here on Tuesday with a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to discuss the abduction of eight persons from a boat in the Mediterranean on Sunday, both the group and the ICRC said.

Earlier the Fatah Revolutionary Council, the group which is said to be led by radical leader Abu Nidal, said in a statement that it was questioning the five Belgians and one French person it said it had abducted, along with two children, from a small craft off the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

A Fatah-RC spokesman said that a member of the group had "told the ICRC delegate (in Lebanon) that he welcomes his efforts and is ready to facilitate his task at the appropriate time," the statement said.

The ICRC representative, Dominique Gross, told AFP that the meeting had taken place as part of "routine visits by the ICRC delegate in the Beirut region to all parties on the Lebanese scene."

The Palestinian group had said on Sunday that the six adults and two children would be taken to a safe place where the ICRC would be allowed to meet them.

The group's earlier statement, in which it refused to give more details on the identities of the hostages, came as Israeli authorities denied that there were any Israeli nationals on board the boat.

Meanwhile various reports from Belgium and France stated that the eight passengers were a family of five Belgian nationals and a Frenchwoman and her two young daughters, none of whom were Jewish.

Announcing the abduction on Sunday, the Fatah-RC said those taken had Israeli nationality.

Lebanese Forces Blame Syria for Strike Suspension

NC110741 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council met yesterday under the chairmanship of Dr Samir Ja'ja' and issued a statement calling attention to the fact that the Syrian occupation forces have intervened to foil the indefinite general strike and divert it from its real objectives. This, according to the statement, proves that the Syrians not only allow the war against the Lebanese to continue, but they do not even allow the Lebanese to handle their own economic and political crises or to express the people's wish to end the war and reverse the deteriorating situation. The Labor Federation was compelled to suspend its indefinite general strike before any of its demands were met, the statement adds.

The Lebanese Forces note that the recent strike was merely a step requiring careful handling, because it could open a new door to popular resistance. The Forces believe that the Lebanese people and their trade unions are living in a world of their own, out of touch with that in which the officials live. The statement points out that events during the recent strike prove that the government's absolute absence has become a distinctive characteristic which negates the possibility of any reaction on the part of officials.

The Forces affirm that the liberation march requires an aware citizen who resists on both the political and the social level.

Palestinian Source Denies Withdrawal From Sidon

NC101510 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] A Palestinian military source in the area east of Sidon has denied reports that there have been changes in the Palestinian positions there. The source added that any Palestinian withdrawal is contingent upon the repair of schools and hospitals in the Palestinian camps.

Al-Jumayyil-Al-Asad Reconciliation Efforts Fail

NC101508 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] On the sidelines of the summit conference, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi today. During the meeting, they discussed Lebanon's need to curb its deteriorating economic situation.

Meanwhile, AFP cites Arab sources as saying that arrangements for a meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Amin al-Jumayyil in Amman stumbled at the last moment. The sources went on to say that the Syrians insisted that President al-Jumayyil's political program should be acceptable to all the Lebanese opposition groups. An Arab official raised with Al-Jumayyil the possibility of amending his political program. However, there were no reports on the progress of the endeavors.

Al-Jumayyil, Delegation Return From Amman

NC121323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut from Amman at 1500 today. He was accompanied by a delegation comprised of former Ministers Ghassan Tuwayni and Dr Elie Salim. President al-Jumayyil had led the Lebanese delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman. [passage omitted]

Junblatt Distributes Memo at Soviet Celebration

NC101558 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Walid Junblatt returned from Moscow last night after attending the 70th anniversary celebrations of the victory of the October Revolution. He had distributed the following document to the delegations attending the celebrations:

Comrades, we had hoped to have a dialogue to reach a common basis and real solidarity, but here we are making speeches. I say that there can be no solution, no stability, and no reconciliation in Lebanon under the Phalangist apartheid regime which is protected by Israel, the United States, and the West. The best guarantee for the Lebanese nationalists lies in more weapons and training to confront this new crusade, as well as in a clear political-military alliance involving the Lebanese nationalists, the Palestinians, and Syria. We call on the sincere and influential forces to end the camps war and to lift the siege on them. We believe that the Palestinian rifle is a patriotic imperative for the Lebanese, the Palestinians, and the Arabs.

Third [as heard], we have agreed to the holding of an international conference to solve the Middle East conflict, but we call for and insist on having an independent Palestinian delegation led by the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We also call for the implementation of all UN resolutions, including the 1947 resolution to partition Palestine.

Fourth, we do not accept any new Jewish immigration to Palestine from anywhere, as this would consitute a political obstacle for a peaceful solution and would serve the policy of settlement.

Fifth, Israel has introduced nuclear weapons into the Middle East. In view of this grave situation, we call on the superpowers to deter Israel. Otherwise, the Arabs and Muslims will also have the right to possess this weapon in order to maintain the balance.

Sixth, every oppressed people and every humiliated nation has the right to opt for armed struggle to defend its dignity and existence. We do not accept lessons in morality or politics from the racist imperialist West which has given the world Hitler, created the apartheid system, destroyed Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Vietnam, and persecuted the Arab people of Algeria. The West has created Israel on Palestinian soil and has kept silent over Israel's crimes in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, and Lebanon. The West's crimes in Latin America are innumerable, and it still cannot uncover the facts concerning the assassination of the great man Olaf Palme. We therefore call for the formation of an international committee to define the difference between terrorism and legitiamte armed struggle, and to consolidate human rights everywhere in the world. In this respect, we reject the campaign against the Arabs and Muslims.

Seventh, Lebanese fighters are in Libya to defend the Libyan revolution, which has supported the Lebanese nationalists in confronting the Phalangists, Israel, and the U.S. and French fleets. This presence is not and will not be directed against the Chadian or African peoples. We are willing to explain our situation to the OAU.

Eighth, we support the arms limitations treaty. Yet, out of our concern for the Bolshevik revolution, we fear that some suspicious reactionary and Zionist elements will exploit this detente. Hence, we believe that there is no need today to condemn the Stalinist era.

We thank you, Comrade Gorbachev and, through you, the CPSU and the Soviet people, for your faithful support of Arab nationalists.

Soviet Delegation Arrives To Mark Anniversary

NC111741 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] A Soviet delegation led by Vladimir Anishchev, CPSU Central Committee member, arrived in Beirut today to take part in celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution.

SSNP Leader Congratulates Gorbachev

NC102021 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Jubran Juraysh, leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP], has sent a congratulatory cable to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the 70th anniversary of the Socialist Revolution. In his message, Juraysh noted the Soviet Union's continued stand in support of the Lebanese people against Zionist and imperialist designs. He also mentioned Soviet support for Syria, affirming the continuation of the national Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian alliance.

Editor on AL-SHIRA' Policy, Hostages

PM111347 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 4-10 Nov 87 pp 52-53

[Interview with Hasan Sabra, chief editor of the *Al-Shira'* magazine, by Ruba Kabbarah in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Kabbarah] There has been a lot of clamor over the reason for the attempt on your life. Some have focused on the editorial in the issue which was published the day of the attempt, and others have focused on your position vis-a-vis the conflicts between Amal and Hizballah, especially concerning the magazine's coverage of the Tyre festival marking the anniversary of the disappearance of Imam Musa al-Sadr.

[Sabra] The assassination attempt was not a settling of scores for one specific position, article, news item, or comment. It was getting even with *Al-Shira'* for the general approach it has pursued for a long time, ever since it was first established, as it has sought as far as possible to publish the truth. [passage omitted]

There is no doubt that publication of the news concerning U.S.-Iranian contacts (Irangate) has shown the world that a state such as Iran has a declared policy which is represented by enmity toward the Americans but which is not the case in reality, as attested by the purchase of weapons from them.

The disclosure of this matter by *Al-Shira'* and its linking it with other events inside Iran has without doubt caused the Iranians to be greatly angered, and I believe that they chose the right moment to vent it by putting Mehdi Hashemi on trial. The world media said that Hashemi's trial, the attempt on my life, and Hashemi's execution were all in the same vein.

The attempted assassination was an effort to eliminate a correct political position which *Al-Shira'* had adopted but which others viewed as harmful to them. [passage omitted]

[Kabbarah] What about your personal relations with Libya?

[Sabra] That is a story which ended a long time ago. I believe the Libyans are against *Al-Shira'*. Three years have passed since the distribution of *Al-Shira'* was banned in Libya. We have reports and figures to show that they owe us sums of money which they have not paid us, which is the value of issues sold on the Libyan market and which the distribution company has refused to pay us for. Despite our dire need, we have not asked them for it.

[Kabbarah] What about your relations with Syria?

[Sabra] We have no relations with any political or official circles in Syria, except for the *Al-Shira'* publication's relations with the Information Ministry, which is just like our relations with any other information ministry in the Arab world. However, we believe that the Syrians have a fundamental role to play in Lebanon, at least in West Beirut where their recent entry has rescued us from the bad elements which have wreaked havoc with people, property, and lives.

[Kabbarah] *Al-Shira'* is unique in its publication of news and predictions—but with no clear sources mentioned—concerning the hostages. It is said that Hasan Sabra is exploiting the reputation he acquired from the "Irangate" scandal in order to spread rumors concerning the hostages.

[Sabra] We have not published rumors, we have published factual news, and the evidence for that is that we were the first to talk about the release of the two French hostages (Roshot and Hans) who were released on the same day. We were the first publication to report the kidnapping of Terry Waite, and we were the first to mention the release of a German hostage, and I say to you that there are serious efforts under way to release one or two of the U.S. hostages after a short while, and that a U.S. envoy will be going to Syria.

[Kabbarah] Do you mean Murphy?

[Sabra] No, Vernon Walters. He is going to Damascus on a visit which is likely to be secret, and which will be followed by the release of hostages. [passage omitted]

Al-Asad, Delegation Return From Amman Summit

JN112148 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus from Amman this evening after attending the extraordinary Arab summit. His accompanying delegation returned with him. His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan bade the president farewell at the site of the conference. President al-Asad was seen off at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan ibn Talal, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Prince 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn, senior Jordanian officials, and officials from the Arab League.

Press Cited on Summit Results

JN120820 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Press review]

[Text] The newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says the following about the results of the recent Arab summit: The outcome of the extraordinary Amman summit highlighted the Palestinian question as the most important cause of the Arabs and the essence of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The summit also called for a commitment to the central cause of the Arabs and emphasized that the Zionist danger threatens the existence and future of the entire Arab nation. This emphasis conforms with Syria's principled and firm stands. The leader of our nation, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, has embodied these stands in word and deed since the start of the glorious corrective movement. Moreover, Arab Syria has confronted the Zionist danger and has warned against the policy of expansion and hegemony while defending those in the fighting trench. Syria thus gave rise to the October liberation war along with this action's military, political, and social implications. The result was the start of a modern Arab age that heralded the retreat of the Zionist tide and a state of awakening for a nation that has never yielded to usurpers.

Syria's stands have always been adopted for the sake of our entire nation. The comprehensive pan-Arab view frequently declared by leader Al-Asad was based on the need to confront the Zionist danger, as well as its successive conspiracies. The most dangerous of these plots is the Camp David accords, which removed Egypt from the fighting trench. Syria has worked with pan-Arab commitment to stem the tide of these treasonous accords and to reach effective Arab solidarity to confront the Zionist danger. This threat grew more fierce following the rift in Arab ranks caused by these ill-omened accords.

When the Syria of Al-Asad proposed strategic parity with the Zionist enemy, Damascus realized that achieving this will safeguard Arab strength and will certainly curb the Zionist enemy's growing might, which threatens the existence of our countries. The outcome of the extraordinary summit, as far as the prime cause of the Arabs is concerned, thus confirms the soundness of the pan-Arab policy of Al-Asad's Syria. This stand will continue to be the cornerstone of our just and legitimate struggle to regain the occupied Arab territories and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

On the same topic, *Tishrin* says: When Syria participated in and called for the Arab summit conference, it was eager for this summit to agree on resolutions enhancing Arab steadfastness in the face of the Zionist onslaught, which is supported by U.S. imperialism. Syria was also eager to remove all obstacles to the march of Arab solidarity for two reasons: One, so that the Arab-Zionist conflict would receive attention and two, so that efforts would be focused on the need to pool the nation's resources to regain the rights of our Palestinian people and our occupied territories. At the conference talks, Syria urged the Arabs to focus on their primary cause, the Palestinian question. It also urged them to support our Arab people in Lebanon who are suffering from Israeli occupation and flagrant imperialist intervention in their affairs.

Tishrin adds: While Syria supported the efforts of those who called for establishing a militant Arab solidarity, it will continue to warn against the dangers of Camp David, the black conspiracy that is aimed against all Arabs and particularly against the Palestinian question. Syria will persevere in supporting any Arab efforts made for the sake of the pan-Arab cause and for backing the national resistance against the Zionist occupation and usurpation. Syria will also continue to pursue strategic parity, which constitutes the main guarantee of Arab rights.

Afghanistan

Report on Najibullah Speech to Party Activists

LD101530 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1615 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Dear compatriots, as you have learned from tonight's news bulletins, today activists from the DRA party, state, and social organizations held a session to discuss the results of the participation of the DRA party and state delegation in the ceremonies of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR]. The session was held in the hall of the Kabul Polytechnic Institute. At the beginning of the session, Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and President of the DRA Revolutionary Council, delivered a detailed speech on the results of the participation of the DRA party and state delegation in the glorious ceremonies of the 70th anniversary of the GOSR. Here is a summary of his speech.

[Begin Najibullah recording] Dear Comrades, friends, compatriots, and our esteemed friend Wali Khan [son of Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan, leader of Pakistani opposition party]. At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, a DRA party and state delegation comprised of Comrades Najibullah; Keshtmand, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Watanjar, member of the Politburo and communication minister—as decided by the Politburo of the Central Committee—visited the Soviet Union from 31 October-8 November to take part in the glorious ceremonies of the 70th anniversary of the GOSR. We returned home yesterday. Within 21 hours we reported to party and state activists on what we had seen and heard, whom we met, and what we did.

We begin from the (?beginning) of this glorious session on the ocassion of the 70th anniversary of the GOSR, which was held in the Kremlin from 2-3 November. Comrade Gorbachev delivered a profound and important speech: The October and Restructuring, the Revolution Continues. For all the Soviet Communists and all (?foreign) guests it was an open and courageous speech. Such political initiatives do not belong to one party, but (?certainly) to all of mankind.

Comrade Gorbachev said: October is truly mankind's [word indistinct] and the dawn of the history of mankind. The October Revolution is a revolution of the people and for the people, for man and for his liberation and development. Seventy years is not a long time in comparison with mankind's civilization and history. However, history has not known a period of such creativity as the one our country has achieved since the victory of the Great October Revolution. There is no higher honor than to tread the path of pioneers and to give all of one's strength, energy, knowledge, and abilities in the name of the triumph of October's ideals. The 70th anniversary is a time to be proud, to be proud of what has been created. The 70th anniversary is a look into the future. Our achievements are enormous both in scale and in significance. They are a solid foundation for new creativity and the further development of our society.

In another part of his speech M.S. Gorbachev said: The vital importance of the plans, slogans, and thoughts put forward by the party, which have been accepted by the people, [words indistinct]. The spirit of these plans (?obliged) the people to create industry. People with empty stomachs performed miracles in the difficult conditions of mechanization. The fact that they were at an important period of history gave them strength. People, in spite of their limited literacy, were thinking on a class basis. That is why each one of them participated in (?this) great cause.

The idea of restructuring is based on our 70 years of history and on the solid foundation of the new social principles that have been built in the Land of the Soviets. Restructuring combines continuity and innovation.

The main and crucial importance of our history consists in the fact that for all these 70 years our people have lived and labored under the leadership of the party, in the name of socialism and in the name of a better and more just life. This is the destiny of a people, of creators and builders.

We see clearly that today the people are no longer condemned to live as they did before the October Revolution. Socialism has been transformed into a developing and proud reality. The October Revolution and socialism have shown the people of the world the road to the future and new values and truly humane relations; collectiveness instead of (?individualism); true people's power instead of majority rule; the strengthening of wisdom and humanism instead of the cruel exploitation of social forces; the unity of mankind and peace instead of discord and war.

All these points gave the participants of the session and those speaking a spirit of strength and mobilization. Veterans of the party, war, and labor, heads of states, leaders of the parties and movements—30 of them all together—spoke. I was also given the opportunity to speak. Our speech was received warmly and enthusiastically by the audience. In our speech we said: The sun of a new life shone on our planet in October 1917. Its rays enlightened the hearts of millions of human beings and (?paved) the way toward a society based on brotherhood, equality, and justice.

On 6 November, at the request of journalists, Comrades Keshtmand, Watanjar, and I took part in a press conference. On (?that) day we also opened a large Kabul store in Moscow. This store sells our fruits, foodstuffs, and industrial goods. Comrade Watanjar took part in the opening of the store. We must remember this store and preserve the high standard of trade in it. It is obvious that is not just a store, but also an advertisement for the DRA.

Later we met with military and civilian students, and informed them of the results of the nationwide party conference and of our delegation's work in Moscow. It was a serious talk. We are not satisfied that the majority of the students are weak in their studies and receive 3 marks [out of 5]. The grade average is 3.7. We have sent 10,374 civilian and military students abroad during conditions of war to study. This is not leisure. One should definitely think about tommorow. But tommorow begins today. And (?peace) does not come of its own accord. It is necessary to struggle for it today. It is a good thing that we have sent youths to study, but why are they receiving 3 marks? This means that they love the homeland and revolution in the same proportion. We regard this as cruelty and treachery to the April Revolution.

On 7 November our delegation took part in [word indistinct] and demonstrations in Red Square. It was a glorious and unforgettable ceremony. For the first time since the period of Amanollah Khan [king of Afghanistan from 1919-1929] a representative from Afghanistan was invited to the rostrum at Lenin's mausoleum. [applause]

We laid wreaths on V.I. Lenin's tomb and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. From the tribune rostrum at the mausoleum we were able to see not just Red Square, but near and far.

During our stay in Moscow, we had lengthy and short meetings, official and unofficial meetings with the leaders of many parties. The most important was the meeting with M.S. Gorbachev. During this friendly and fraternal meeting, an information session was (?held) in which most constructive issues and the problems of the near future were also discussed. Meetings with Comrades Shevardnadze, Chebrikov, Talyzin, and Yazov were held in a spirit of consolidating, strengthening, and continuing these contacts. [applause]

We also meet with Comrade Fidel Castro. With pleasure we spent 20 hours in the heroic city of Volgograd before going to Moscow. Everything we saw there is the [word indistinct] of the Great October. We visited the war museum of Volgograd and climbed the [word indistinct] steps. The steps of this monument [words indistinct] as if we have studied a golden page in the history of the people of the Soviet Union and the CPSU. In Volgograd we visited Watan nursery school where Afghan children are studying. The kind hands of the [word indistinct] efforts of the Soviet teachers moved us profoundly. Everywhere it was clean and tidy. We had tears in our eyes, because they are the children of war and half of them are orphans.

First and foremost, what conclusions can be drawn from our delegation's visit to Moscow and its participation in the glorious ceremonies on the 70th anniversary of the GOSR?

All leading party cadres and the broad masses of the party membership should profoundly study the address M.S. Gorbachev delivered in a glorious meeting on the 70th anniversary of the Great October and his speech at a meeting with the delegations of the parties and organizations visiting Moscow. M.S. Gorbachev's address to the heads of the fraternal parties and the representatives of the democratic organizations is convincing evidence of the fact that the main incentive to present day social progress is mankind's efforts toward peace and salvation from nuclear catastrophe.

M.S. Gorbachev's upcoming visit to the United States and his meeting with Ronald Reagan is a great victory and proof of the Soviet Union's openness and consistency toward the realization of the program of creating a system of total security. The further continuous development of the USSR's credibility and prestige in the international arena, (?before) [word indistinct], all the friends of the Soviet Union, and the great people of the Soviet Union, stems from this.

The people of the Soviet Union have manifested their revolutionary thinking to the depth of their [word indistinct]. These people have not been and are not frightened of telling the truth about their difficulties and mistakes and learning from them. Therefore, they can overcome difficulties in order to fulfill their future great tasks. The historic services of the Soviet people before mankind also transformed the ceremonies of the 70th anniversary of October into the anthem of all the generations of the Soviet people. The [word indistinct] conclusion inspires us and makes us firmer.

Everywhere we felt the profound respect and love of the Soviet people toward us, toward the representatives of the people of Afghanistan. [applause]

In Moscow, once again we felt the attention of the international community toward Afghanistan and the settlement of the situation inside and around Afghanistan. It can be said without exaggeration that there was warm support for the speech of the head of the Afghan delegation and approval of our policy of national reconciliation, which was (?reflected) in the speeches of many participants. All the world is seriously watching the events in our country. We should consider this fact a great responsibility. Therefore, we should make every effort to achieve objective results regarding the realization of the nationwide conference.

We should objectively assess what we have done so far with regard to the implementation of the conference decisions and what lies ahead of us. We must work every day and every hour in order to convene the Grand Assembly and successfully conclude elections for the National Assembly.

Our party's credibility will, to a large extent, be dependent upon these facts. It is certainly necessary that all of our plans and practical steps be (?linked) to practical preparations for the 10th anniversary of the April Revolution. The people should feel this preparation in the existence of specific work and care for them.

All of our work makes us duty bound to be firm, extremely disciplined, and purposeful. Everything we said in the nationwide conference should be implemented without delay. It is necessary to transform the word for peace into action for peace. [applause]

We should work in a new manner, determined, with accountability and effectiveness. Thank you for your attention. [applause] [end recording]

Commentary Previews Reagan-Gorbachev Talks

LD120620 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 11, *Bakhtar*—The result of Soviet-American talks in Moscow at the end of last month and the discussions between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR; and George Shultz, secretary of state of the United States, in Washington on October 30, have given rise to new hopes in the cause of arms reduction and nuclear disarmaments, writes daily *Kabul New Times* in a commentary.

The most important announcement to come from Washington talks is that Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the the CPSU Central Committee and President Reagan of the United States are to hold their long expected summit meeting in the United States beginning from December 7, 1987.

During their summit meeting, the general secretary of the CPSU CC and the U.S. President in addition to examining the whole range of issues of Soviet-American relations, are to sign an agreement on the total elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles. The sides will also strive for an early accord on 50 per cent cut in the strategic offensive armaments and a future agreement on observing the ABM Treaty and non-withdrawal from it in the course of a term to be agreed upon, the daily writes.

It goes without saying that the latest accord is a process well begun, which if logically carried forward could rid humanity of the nightmare of extinction in a nuclear catastrophe. It has proved once again that peace can and must be won—a position to which the Soviet Union and all peace forces have firmly adhered to, despite difficulties and provocations by detractors, the commentary concludes.

Statement on Journalists' Deaths, Media Visits

LD111850 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Nov 87

["Special" BIA Announcement]

[Text] The Western mass media have recently spread rumors about the so-called inhumane behavior of the DRA Government vis-a-vis foreign journalists who have covertly entered DRA territory. The basis of these rumours is a report by the radio station Voice of America about the so-called [word indistinct] two U.S. journalists being killed in Afghanistan. A similar claim has been made in a statement by the U.S. Embassy in the DRA.

As a result of an investigation by competent DRA authorities, it has been established on the basis of statements made by eyewitnesses that a banned group, which illegally crossed over the border from Pakistan and entered DRA territory, was accompanied by three persons with European features who introduced themselves as journalists.

The banned group, in violation of the conditions of a cease-fire and reconciliation, engaged in an armed clash with DRA military units on Afghanistan's territory. As a result, according to witnesses in the area, two foreigners were among those killed and the third one was seriously injured. There is no detailed information yet about this event. Measures are under way to clarify the issue.

In connection with this and on behalf of the DRA Government, BIA has been commissioned to state that the DRA Government, in the framework of the national reconciliation policy, will organize preparations for lawful and normal visits to the country by foreign mass media representatives in order to familiarize themselves with developments in the country.

The relevant DRA authorities will extend the necessary assistance and security to such journalists to enable them to accomplish their duties. Contrary to this, the Afghan authorities, under the circumstances of the continuation of the undeclared war against the DRA, cannot guarantee the security of those foreign subjects who come into the country illegally with irreconcilable counterrevolutionary bands.

Furthermore, the Afghan side regards the presence of such foreign subjects in the DRA as illegal and sees their activities in the interests of the opposing side as evidence confirming the blatant external interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

Pakistan Claims of Border Shelling Rejected

LD101833 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] The Pakistani Embassy charge d'affaires in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 1030 this morning. The following matters were put to him by the director of the First Political Department:

The Pakistani Government has alleged that Afghan artillery fired 21 shells at Landikhana, 5 km west of Lani Kotal, on 6 October from 4:00 to 4:30; that 18 artillery shells were fired at Kitkot in Bajawar Agency on 7 October at 6:00; and that 20 artillery shells were fired at Teri Mangal area in Kurrum Agency on 22 October from 12:20 to 1:25. It also alleges that the Afghan Air Force fired 10 rockets and 30 machinegun rounds at the Arandu area in Chitral on 25 October at 1:20.

The relevent authorities of the DRA, after a thorough investigation, reject these allegations by the Government of Pakistan as baseless and untruthful and demand that the Government of Pakistan refrain from making such claims, which will have no other consequence than to further intensify tension at border areas.

30 Soviet-Afghan Troops Killed in Herat 7 Nov

LD111142 Tehran IRNA in English 1058 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Mashad, Khorasan Prov., Nov, 11, IRNA—Over 30 joint Soviet-Afghan troops were killed and a large number of others wounded during an assault of Afghan Muslim mujahidin on the positions of joint forces in Herat Province, Nov. 7.

One tank was set afire and considerable damage was inflicted on the positions and equipment of the joint forces while thirteen Afghan forces were captured during the clash.

Bangladesh

Reportage on 'Siege' of Dhaka Events

14 Dead in Protests

BK101606 Hong Kong AFP in English 1552 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 10 (AFP)—Opposition groups Tuesday claimed 14 people died as police opened fire on demonstrators during a so-called "siege" demonstration to press for the ouster of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

But Home Minister Abdul Matin said only three people were killed and two others injured in police action. He also told a news conference that 236 people had been arrested and 15 policemen injured.

Opposition parties announced plans for general strikes Wednesday and Thursday—first in Dhaka, then nationwide—to protest the bloodshed.

Witnesses and police sources said violent mobs Tuesday damaged about two dozen government vehicles and set on fire at least two government offices during rampages which continued until the evening.

A senior police official told *Agence France-Presse* that trouble was continuing in some parts of Dhaka, with small groups attacking government installations and vehicles. "It is far from under control," he said.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, whose eight-party Awami League was among the major opposition groups who called for Tuesday's anti-government campaigns, told a news conference that police firings had left 12 dead in Dhaka and two others in Shibganj and Barisal.

She did not give details.

She also claimed that since a government crackdown began late last month, about 10,000 opposition activists and leaders had been arrested or detained.

Another opposition leader, Begum Khaleda Zia, who heads a seven-party coalition led by her Bangladesh Nationalist Party, said the opposition would continue laying on pressure until the Ershad government resigned.

"He has to resign...It is a matter of time," she said.

The two major opposition alliances, backed by the five-party leftist group Nirmal Sen and rightist Jamaat-i-Islami Party, jointly announced a dawn-to-dusk general strike Wednesday in Dhaka and a similar strike nationwide Thursday against the police shooting.

Sheikh Hasina said mobs uprooted railway tracks in northern Sylhet District and that demonstrations had taken place in most of the country's 64 districts.

But Mr. Matin told newsmen: "You have seen the opposition's so-called Dhaka siege...The myth that the unity of two ladies would make us resign has been shattered. We did not resign...We are here."

He said the opposition had hoped it would muster five million people, "but they had hardly 5,000 people. They resorted to anarchy, vandalism and arson...That is all about the siege."

On police action, Mr. Matin sadi: "We (the government) tried to tolerate as much as possible...As long as it was not telling upon our nerves...But tolerance and weakness (of government) are not synonymous."

Mr. Ershad, 59, who had consistently brushed aside the opposition demands to resign, Tuesday flew to the eastern town of Nasirnagar, where he reminded the opposition at a public meeting that the ballot box was the only democratic and constitutional means for changing the government.

Ershad Comments on Protest

BK101604 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] President Ershad has said expression of people's verdict through ballot is the only democratic and constitutional method for changing any government. The president was addressing a huge public meeting at Nasirnagar upzilla [subdistrict] in Brahmanbaria today. He said raising slogans and organizing processions in a bid to intimidate people to destabilize democratic process and to serve party interests can never be a democratic means to go to power. Rather, such action adversely affects interests of common men who aspire to see progress and prosperity in a condition of total peace.

About the 10th November program of some opposition parties, the president said the anti-people program was rejected by the people in general. He said all mills and factories in and around the capital functioned as usual and all offices worked with full attendance. The president said these parties were not able to attract even a few thousand people to support their cause as the cause itself has no national character. It is designed only to serve the party interests, he added. The meeting was also addressed by the deputy minister for health and family planning, Humayun Kabir.

The deputy prime minister in charge of the Ministry of Home, Professor M.A. Matin, has said the situation in the capital is under full control of the government. He was briefing newsmen on the Dhaka program of the opposition this evening. The home minister said the situation is normal despite the so-called Dhaka siege program of the opposition. He said the offices functioned normally with almost full attendance. All industries, including the Adamji jute mills, ran smoothly.

The home minister said a mob tried to attack the Secretariat. They exploded some bombs and hurled a few others toward the Secretariat. They set fire to foreign [as heard] post office, HVS Bhavan, and a petrol pump. Police exercised utmost restraint in maintaining law and order. Fifteen policemen were injured when the unruly mob attacked them. Three people were killed and two others injured in clashes. Two hundred and thirty-six persons have been taken into custody. Prof Matin said the myth that the so-called unity of the major opposition leaders will bring down the government has proved false.

Press Note Details Protest

BK110314 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] A press note issued by the Home Ministry last night said despite a ban on meetings and processions of more than four persons in Dhaka metropolitan area, unruly mobs illegally assembled in the name of the so-called siege program in the capital yesterday [10 November] and carried out all kinds of destructive activities. They set fire to buses, damaged government properties, threw hand grenades, and shot at the police force engaged in the maintenance of law and order. As a result, government properties, including 18 vehicles [words indistinct] were damaged, and 3 people died.

Giving details of the incidents, [words indistinct] an unruly mob set fire to a DRTC [Dhaka Road Transport Corporation] bus at the (Mahu) Bazaar (?terminal). The police controlled the situation and the [words indistinct] put out the fire. At 1000, another unruly mob threw crackers on a passenger bus in which six passengers were injured. They were admitted into the hospital. At the same time, some unruly youths damaged glasses of the Dhaka Municipal Corporation [building] at Mirpur No 2 Section. Another unruly mob threw (?four) hand grenades on a police vehicle at Mirpur Section 11. The press note further said destructive activities by mobs in Motijheel area started around 1100. They damaged a petrol pump, the DRTC building, and two buses of Rupali Bank. They also set on fire a DRTC bus there and set fire to 10 vehicles kept behind the HVSB [expansion unknown] building.

Meanwhile, mobs carried out attacks with brickbats and crackers on the police force in Customs Bazaar area where several policemen were injured. When police resorted to a lathi [baton] charge to disperse the crowd, it became violent and again attacked the police. One person was injured when police fired in self-defense. According to the press note, unruly crowd began to assemble at Banga Bandhu Avenue since 1000 in the morning to carry out destructive activities. They threw brickbats on the police and exploded hand grenades and crackers. As a result, a number of policemen were injured. At 1145, mobs carrying lathis brought out a procession on Topkhana Road, Janata Bank crossing, and Zero Point area. Police had to fire several rounds of tear gas shells to disperse these illegal gatherings of people. The press note said the unruly crowd carried out all-out attacks on the police with brickbats, crackers, and hand grenades. Thirty policemen and ansars [volunteer guards] were injured. Police had to open fire in self-defense, and as a result, three persons died and several others were injured there. Another mob set fire to a part of the foreign post office premises situated on the ground floor of the GPO [General Post Office] building. They also set two jeeps to fire at Vijayanagar.

According to the press note, police took into custody 236 people to save public property from the unruly crowds. The press note said maintenance of peace and discipline and ensuring stability is a sacred responsibility of the government. Therefore, the government is determined to stop destruction of government property and lives in the name of movements in any form. The government expressed the hope that all concerned will refrain from this sort of activities in future.

Various political parties and organizations have said the people have rejected the siege of Dhaka program of some opposition alliances. Secretary general of the Standing

Committee of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, A.S.M. Abdul Rab, has said the opposition alliances have again chosen the path of hartal [general work stoppage] and strikes aimed at hampering production. The donveneg of Jatiya Nagrik Sanghati, Mr Khalilur Rahman Majumder, said the negative politics of the opposition is causing loss of human lives and loss of properties. President of Jatiya Shanti Samaj, Khandokar Nurul Islam, said the siege of Dhaka program did not bring any good to the nation.

Strikes Called for 11-12 Nov

BK110450 Hong Kong AFP in English
0444 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 11 (AFP)—Police and paramilitary forces patrolled here Wednesday amid the debris of burnt vehicles and barricades as the city observed a general strike called by the opposition to protest violence here Tuesday.

Groups of opposition supporters were seen organising afresh for rallies and processions in support of the dawn-to-dusk general strike in Dhaka Wednesday, despite a government ban on such gatherings, witnesses said.

The strike was called to protest police firing at crowds during an opposition "siege" of Dhaka Tuesday, in which opposition sources claimed 14 people died.

Officials put the death toll at three.

The city was peaceful early Wednesday as the strike got under way, the streets deserted apart from the police patrols and the debris of stones, burnt vehicles and barricades which still littered the streets following pitched battles between protesters and police Tuesday, witnesses said.

Shops and offices were closed, and there was no sign of municipal sweepers to clear the debris in most parts of the capital.

The situation had calmed overnight, but security remained tight Wednesday, with police and paramilitary forces taking up positions in strategic areas of the Bangladesh capital.

The opposition has called a strike in Dhaka Wednesday and a nationwide strike Thursday to protest Tuesday's shootings.

Opposition supporters were grouping for more rallies here Wednesday, witnesses said, in defiance of a week-long ban on political rallies and processions which took effect Monday.

Situation in Dhaka 11 Nov

BK110504 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0435 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, dawn-to-dusk hartal [strike] started in Dhaka from 0600 this morning. The call for the hartal was given by three main opposition alliances of 20 parties and the Jamaat-i-Islami in protest against the police firing on the demonstrators. They have demanded the resignation of the present government under President Ershad. AIR Dhaka correspondent Sanat Mukhoppadhya reports that all vehicular traffic, including cycle rickshas, are off the road. Shops, bazaars, and business establishments are closed. However, government offices, banks, and private offices are open but the attendance is poor.

Police Arrest Begum Khaleda Zia

BK110729 Hong Kong AFP in English
0655 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 11 (AFP)—Begum Khaleda Zia, one of Bangladesh's major opposition leaders, was arrested at a Dhaka hotel Wednesday during noon-hour, witnesses and police said.

She was whisked into a waiting jeep after police entered the Purvbani Hotel where she had been staying overnight after leading anti-government demonstrations here Tuesday.

Ms. Begum Zia waved at crowds outside the hotel as the jeep, escorted by a half-dozen police lorries, took her away towards Dhaka's police control room.

Witnesses said police had also surrounded the Dhanmondi residence of Sheikh Hasina Wajed, another prominent opposition leader who played a key role in Tuesday's so-called "siege" of Dhaka.

Begum Khaleda Zia Released

BK111254 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] In Bangladesh, the leader of the opposition seven-party alliance, Begum Khaleda Zia, who was arrested by the authorities earlier in the day, has been released.

Meanwhile, normal life in the capital city Dhaka remained completely disrupted following a call for hartal [strike] given by three main opposition alliances in protest against police firing on the demonstrations yesterday. [passage omitted]

Sheikh Hasina Detained

*BK111654 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 11 Nov 87*

[Text] In Bangladesh, the leader of the seven-party alliance, Begum Khaleda Zia, was put under preventive detention in Dhaka this afternoon. Earlier, she had been arrested from a hotel and detained at the police station for more than 2 hours. The chief of the Awami League, Sheikh Hasina, has also been placed under detention. Three other leaders of the Bangladesh National Party, including its general secretary and a former minister, Ubaidur Rahman, have been arrested. The police crackdown on opposition leaders follows the opposition campaign to force President Ershad to resign.

Meanwhile, at least 50 persons were injured in clashes between demonstrators and police during a dawn-to-dusk general strike called by the three major opposition alliances in Dhaka today.

Ershad on Opposition

*BK111650 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 11 Nov 87*

[Text] President Ershad has called upon the people to extend their cooperation in his efforts to build a happy and prosperous Bangladesh. He was addressing a public meeting at Chowr Badhrasan in Faridpur District today. The president thanked the people for rejecting the programs of the opposition parties. President Ershad said as the opposition program of the 10th of November has completely failed, they have now started acts of arson and terror in society. They are damaging government's property and burning vehicles. These are the properties of the people and for this the opposition will have to give explanation to the people for their misdeeds. The president firmly said the opposition parties are responsible for the killing of three people during their unlawful activities. The opposition has no good programs for the welfare of the people. They are after only to create anarchy and confusion.

Earlier in the morning, President Ershad visited the Secretariat in the capital. He went round different sections and found the attendance of the officers and employees despite the hartal [strike] call given by some opposition political parties. He talked to the officials and enquired about their welfare and progress of work.

President Ershad also went to the cabinet room, where a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) was in progress at that time. The president stayed there for some time and observed the proceedings of the meeting. He briefed the ECNEC members about policy matters. Vice President Nurul Islam, Deputy Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed, Women's and Social Welfare Minister M. Shamsul Haq, Commerce Minister M. A. Munim, Health and Family Planning Minister Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Anwar Hussain, Planning Minister A.K. Khandokar, Finance Minister M. Syeduzzaman, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Mirza Ruhul Amin, and State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism N.A. Sattar were present at the meeting.

The deputy prime minister in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Professor M.A. Matin, has reiterated government's determination to maintain law and order in the country. At a news conference in Dhaka this evening, he said the hartal call given by some political parties and alliances has largely failed. Offices and industrial units functioned normally and all means of transport operated as usual. However, there was thin traffic. Chittagong and Mangla ports also functioned normally.

Prof Matin gave a brief account of the incidents caused by acts of anarchy and vandalism by unruly crowds at different places in the capital today. Two BRTC [Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation] buses were badly damaged and two others were damaged partially. There were also some incidents of arson in the city. One ansar [defense volunteer] and seven policemen were injured in the metropolis. In all, 69 people were taken into custody today. Some minor incidents also took place in Mymensingh and Chittagong today.

Replying to a question, the deputy prime minister said BNP [Bangladesh Nationalist Party] leader Begum Khaleda Zia has been put under preventive detention and interned at her residence. Three other BNP leaders, including Secretary General K.M. Obaidurrahman, have also been arrested. The step, he said, has been taken to prevent them from taking part in any prejudicial act. Prof M.A. Matin told a questioner that the government has successfully controlled the situation. Communications Minister M. Matiur Rahman, who was also present at the news conference, said most of the train services ran as usual. The cabinet, home, information, and industries secretaries were also present at the news conference.

Strike Continues for 3d Day

*BK120617 Hong Kong AFP in English
0601 GMT 12 Nov 87*

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 12 (AFP)—A mob set fire to a bus depot here Thursday as opposition action aimed at ousting the Bangladesh Government entered its third straight day, witnesses and fire brigade sources said.

Dhaka's major market places remained closed and most traffic stayed off the streets in response to a call by three opposition groups for a dawn-to-noon general strike in the capital.

The opposition also called for a day-long strike in other areas of the country and reports indicated that this was being observed.

Fire brigade sources said an angry mob set fire to a bus depot in Dhaka's suburban Mirpur area, after some bus drivers had ignored the strike call and attempted to get their vehicles on the road early Thursday.

"It is still burning, and the fire fighters are yet to reach the scene," the sources told *Agence France-Presse*. They did not mention any casualties.

Witnesses said only a few bicycle rickshaws were seen early Thursday in the city's Motijheel, Gulistan and Gurana districts, the scenes of violent clashes between police and demonstrators in the past two days.

In Motijheel, even the rickshaws vanished after stike-observers let down their tyres. Police later moved into the area and held a few activists, an AFP correspondent on the scene said.

The strike calls were made by the opposition Awami League alliance of Sheikh Hasina Wajed, Begum Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party, and the fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami Party, in a bid to force the government of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to step down from power.

Sheikh Hasina and Begum Zia, who have been under house arrest since Wednesday, called on the people to continue the agitation until the resignation of Mr Ershad, whom they have accused of coming to power illegally and of rigging elections to maintain his rule.

Mr Ershad has dismissed the charges and said the opposition movement against him was an "evil design" aimed at creating chaos.

He said Tuesday, the day the opposition launched its "siege" of Dhaka, that the opposition action was "a flop and was rejected by the people."

During clashes here Tuesday, police opened fire on anti-government demonstrators killing three people, according to official figures.

The opposition says up to 14 people were killed.

5 Killed in 12 Nov Clashes

BK120836 Hong Kong AFP in English 0831 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 12 (AFP)—Five people, including two policemen, were killed in clashes in the Bangladesh capital Thursday, correspondents at the scene said.

Police and paramilitary forces opened fire near the state-run television station and at least one other area of the capital after home-made bombs thrown by protesters left two policemen dead near the television station, they added.

Three people were killed in the shooting.

A police spokesman said that one constable had been killed and one critically injured and police used teargas and batons against several thousand protesters hurling Molotov cocktails, but denied that police had opened fire.

Clashes were continuing, correspondents said. Police told all journalists and photographers to leave, warning that they had orders to shoot, they added.

Further Casualties Reported

BK121258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, at least 5 persons, including 2 policemen, were killed and over 200 injured in violent clashes on the 3d successive day of anti-government demonstrations in Dhaka today. The policemen were killed after a hand grenade was thrown on them while they were guarding a building. The police opened fire when demonstrators became violent in the same area. Government offices were ransacked and a bus depot set on fire.

Clashes also took place in the port towns of Chittagong and Khulna. The violence followed yesterday's detention of two opposition leaders, Begum Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina. A general strike was called today to protest against their detention. The three main opposition alliances are demanding the resignation of President Ershad's government.

India

Calls for Cease-fire With LTTE Rejected

BK111340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1320 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Nov 11 (AFP)—India rejected on Wednesday opposition calls to cease fire against Tamil separatist guerrillas resisting Indian troops in Sri Lanka.

Indian soldiers will continue their offensive till the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) accepts the Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord and agrees to lay down arms, Minister of State for External Affairs K. Natwar Singh told Parliament.

"We are quite clear in our minds that the task assigned to the Indian Peace-Keeping Force has to be completed in larger interests," he said in the Lok Sabha, or Lower House, at the end of a marathon debate on Sri Lanka.

More than 800 Tamil guerrillas and 230 Indian soldiers have died according to official figures since last month, when the Indians moved to disarm the LTTE under the peace accord signed on July 29.

Several opposition members Tuesday and Wednesday urged the government to halt the offensive against the LTTE, which has repudiated the peace pact and killed more than 250 rival Tamil rebels and Sinhalese civilians since July.

Mr. Singh, one of India's mediators in the Sri Lankan ethnic conflict, said India had tried to bring around the LTTE for more than two months. "How can 48 hours of ceasefire help?" he asked.

He admitted the government had received a message from LTTE chief Velupillai Prabhakaran on November 6 requesting a 48-hour halt to the Army actions, but said it "did not meet (India's) requirements."

The peace agreement was aimed at safeguarding the interests of Sri Lankan Tamils, the island nation's unity and integrity, and the region's security, he said.

An opposition Tamil member of parliament, N.V.N. Somu, walked out of the House in protest at the end of Mr. Singh's one-hour statement, shouting: "Stop killing Tamils. Order ceasefire."

India has previously said it would agree to a ceasefire if the LTTE renounced violence, surrendered its weapons and accepted the peace agreement.

Mr. Singh's statement, a reiteration of New Delhi's previous stand, came shortly after India's top Tamil politician and LTTE's one-time chief supporter announced his agreement with the federal government on the ethnic conflict.

Political observers said it was a major blow to the LTTE.

Tamil Nadu State Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran said in a statement in Madras, where Tamil militant groups have offices, that his government and party would cooperate with New Delhi on measures to find a political solution.

Mr. Ramachandran was considered the LTTE's strongest backer during the Tamil separatist campaign in which more than 7,000 people have died since mid-1983. [passage omitted]

Pakistani Support for Terrorists Alleged

BK120919 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, informed the Rajya Sabha today that Pakistan's assistance to extremist activities directed against India has taken many forms, ranging from inspirational support to supply of weapons. He said this is a matter of serious concern. It has been taken up with the Pakistani Government on several occasions at various levels.

Soviet Prime Minister To Visit India 20-25 Nov

BK111638 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi
1515 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] The Soviet prime minister, Nikolay Ryzhkov, will pay an official visit to India from 20 to 25 November in connection with the inauguration of a Soviet festival. A spokesman for the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi this evening that Ryzhkov is arriving here at the invitation of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Government of India. Cordial and friendly relations exist between India and the Soviet Union and Ryzhkov's visit takes place within the tradition of high-level exchanges of views. The spokesman said both sides attach great importance to Ryzhkov's visit, as this will be another significant event in the direction of growing multilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Iran

President, Officials Meet With Khomeyni

LD101313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] On the occasion of the anniversaries of the birth of the last prophet, Mohammad, the chosen one—may God's peace and blessings be upon him and his scion—and the brithday of holy Imam Ja‘far Sadeq [the sixth Shi‘ite imam]—peace be upon him—this morning the president, the Majlis speaker, the state Supreme Court chief justice, the prime minister, a large group of religious figures, state and military officials, and a group of foreign ulema and researchers who attended the Islamic Unity Conference met with Imam Khomeyni at Hoseyniyeh-e Jamaran. During this meeting, President Seyyed ‘Ali Khamene‘i offered congratulations on the birthday of the noble prophet of Islam, his great holiness Mohammad, son of ‘Abdallah—may God's peace and blessings be upon and his scion—and the blessed birthday of holy Imam Ja‘far Sadeq, peace be upon him. Afterward, the imam of the ummah made a detailed speech on the personality of the noble prophet and Imam Ja‘far Sadeq, peace be upon him, and the mission of divine prophets.

Khamene‘i Speaks

LD101340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 10 Nov 87

["Text" of speech by President Seyyed ‘Ali Khamene‘i at a meeting with Imam Khomeyni at Hoseyniyeh-e Jamaran on 10 November—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On behalf of this audience and the entire Iranian nation, I sincerely offer congratulations and greetings to our leader, our dear and lofty imam, the hope of the hearts of the oppressed and the Iranian nation, on the occasion of the auspicious birthday of the noble prophet, the apostle of mankind's liberation from the claws of slavery and captivity, and the prophet who brought mankind closer to divine worship. I also offer congratulations on the auspicious birthday of the sixth imam, the righteous eloquent Imam Ja'far, son of Mohammad al-Sadeq, may God's peace and mercy be upon him.

Our nation is going through a sensitive period. This is a time for the Iranian nation to rely on God, hold on to God's rope [reference to Koranic verse which says: Hold ye fast on God's rope and remain united], and to follow the path of Islam and the prophets in strongly and steadfastly standing against all blasphemy and arrogance. This is a time when global blasphemy and arrogance fully understand the high morale of this nation, this country, and this system; in fact, global arrogance is now in a defensive position. Now more than ever before, we—the Iranian nation—need first to sincerely and firmly recognize the path of the noble prophet of Islam and the path of the great saints. Second, we must move along this path. Thanks be to God, our people realize that Islam is the soul of their daily lives and are relying on it. What we see today—this nation's bravery and might, its devotion and selflessness, its determination to stand against and confront the satanic powers, its love, and its life-giving and constructive commitment to the saints of religion—more than anything else are because of this great revolution and the leadership of Your Holiness, our dear and illustrious imam. On this auspicious day and in this very precious hour, I will not keep this eager and excited audience waiting any longer, as they are awaiting to hear Your Holiness' remarks. We all ask you to honor us and instruct us as you always do with your advice and guidance. May God's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you.

Khomeyni Marks Prophet's Birthday

LD101546 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Nov 87

["Text" of Imam Khomeyni speech on the Prophet Mohammad's birthday at Hoseyniyeh-e Jamaran on 10 November—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I have nothing new to say, and I do not regard myself as worthy of saying anything about the prophet of God, God's peace and blessings be upon him and his scion, and about His Holiness Imam Sadiq, God's peace be upon him. I am not capable of speaking about such issues. The only thing I wish to say to you is that the Koran is the pronouncement of the holy prophet. Just as the holy prophet, His Holiness Sadiq, peace be upon him, and the supreme vice-regent of God [a title given by the Shi'ites to Imam 'Ali] were the supreme reflection of Almighty God, so is the Koran. The Koran is a supreme reflection of Almighty God, for all God's attributes are reflected in it. God has endowed the holy prophet, as well as His Holiness Sadiq and other imams, with qualities about which we know nothing. However, the book of God [the Koran] is Mohammad's pronouncement. The more you look into that book and scrutinize it, the more you will realize just who is the one through whom the book was revealed and what kind of a person he is.

The Koran is like a table that has been spread out for all of mankind. It has a language which can be understood by ordinary people, philosophers, mystics, and those who are familiar with gnosis and esoteric knowledge. In his holy book there are many issues, the most important of which are the spiritual ones. The holy prophet and the rest of the prophets did not come to establish a government in this world. This was not their primary aim. They did not come to establish justice. This too was not their supreme aim. All these were preliminaries. All their efforts—from His Holiness Noah and His Holiness Abraham to the holy prophet—[Khomeyni changes thought] He says: All my efforts and all my work are preliminaries for revealing the holy essence of God. The aim of all the divine books, the most sublime of which is the holy Koran, is to reveal Almighty God with all His attributes.

The ordinary members of the public understand many things from that book; the elite understand higher things from it; the most qualified elite understand even higher things. However, only God knows what is in His book [reference to an Islamic saying]. No one can understand it completely. Whoever wants to understand the prophet should understand the Koran. Since no one can understand the Koran, no one can understand the prophet. His book acts as his pronouncement. The pronouncement of His Holiness Sadiq—apart from the fact that he himself and the prophet are his pronouncement personified— is the jurisprudence which has been elaborated by his tongue. That jurisprudence has answers for the needs of men from the beginning to the end, for every issue that might arise, for everyday issues, and for issues that might arise in the future and about which we know nothing now. There is no need for anyone to engage in false interpretations. The jurisprudence itself—the book [Koran] and the traditions of the prophet—the jurisprudence—most of which was elaborated by His Holiness Sadiq, peace be upon him— satisfies all the material, spiritual, philosophical, and mystical needs of all humanity at all times until Judgment Day. These are the pronouncements of those illustrious individuals. Otherwise, we are not able to define them in a way worthy of them.

The prayers of the holy imams and their meditations also have the same quality as the contents of God's book but in a different langauge. The Koran has its own language, talks in a certain way, and includes all issues—most of which are mysteries about which we understand nothing—while the prayers written by the imams, peace be upon them, are somewhat different. According to the description of my great mystical sheykh and professor [reference to one of Khomeyni's teachers], the prayers constitute a book of supplication, the are a Koran in the form of supplication. He said that the Koran is the revealed book, it has been revealed by God; while the prayers of the imams are the ascending Koran [supplications ascending to God from men]. They are the same as the Koran and are ascending unto Heaven. If anyone wishes to understand the station of the imams, he should refer to their work, and their work is their prayers. The most important part of their work is their prayers and the books which they wrote in the forms of prayers. Their prayers or books such as "Nahj al-Balagha" [a book of aphorism and guidance by Imam 'Ali] or "Yowm al-Ma'rifah"—I do not know what to say about such works.

In any case, we are incapable of adequately giving thanks for this bounty; that we belong to a sect which uses both sources. We make use of the source of revelation and the source of the vice-regency of the imams while other sects lack the second source. We cannot appropriately express our thanks for this bounty. We beseech Almighty God to enable us to be thankful for this bounty.

When we read the holy verses in the Koran or when we read about the lives of the prophets, we realize that all of them, not as an objective but as a preliminary step, have striven to create justice in the world. The prophet intended to bring justice so that he could raise and tackle the problems created by mankind. Ever since the day when the prophets received the divine inspiration, one of their tasks was to fight against those who were tyrants, (?oppressors), and bloodthirsty individiuals. All the prophets fought against such individuals in various ways. You should not imagine that any of the prophets used to sit in his house to say prayers or issue decrees. No, it was not like that. They used to issue decrees but they would then ensure their implementation.

Prophet Ibrahim used to raise problems and then he would go to challenge those who used to ridicule the instructions of Almighty God. At the same time, he would raise various issues and would confront cruelty and tyranny. The fact that we had been brainwashed by the world's arrogant powers to think that a religious figure should not interfere in politics was one of their policies to keep Muslims backward and in order to prevent their struggle. They, therefore, waged so much propaganda that many strata of society came to believe that a mullah should not interfere in politics. They would say: What has a mullah got to do with political matters?

Even holy Christ, peace be upon him, contrary to the belief of his followers who think that Christ used to talk about spiritual matters only, was following the same policy. His first mission was to fight. When He was born, Mary said: What am I supposed to do? This is a saying attributed to her. When He was born his mother faced slander by the Jews and she was unhappy about it. Christ turned to his mother shortly after birth and said: O Mother, do not upset yourself. If someone comes to ask you about me, tell them: I am fasting and am not supposed to say anything; go and ask the baby himself about his father. They came and began shouting obscentities against holy Mary; Her Holiness Mary pointed to the child and said: go and ask Him. They said: How can a newborn baby speak? Then His Holiness said: God has given me both a mission and a book. In other words, before his birth God had given Him a mission. He then spoke in detail about God's book and his recommendations. He raised all the issues. A figure such as Christ does not sit in His house to discuss religious matters only. Had He confined His mission to issuing decrees alone they would not have crucified Him. Why did He have to go through so much suffering?

The same is true of other prophets. This can best be seen in the apostle of God [Prophet Mohammad] peace be upon him, who came and formed a government and set up a system of administration. This means that they were involved in governing matters and political issues. Does the establishment of a government mean anything else but involvement in political matters? Therefore, the fact that enemies have continued to try to make Muslims believe that religious figures should go to the mosque and leave them to form a government is a calamity inflicted by them on us. We can see how all Muslims have been afflicted with this calamity. Muslims must wake up. They should study the biographies of the prophets, particularly the biography of our noble prophet. They should read and find out what he did and should then follow this example.

Had the prophet remained in the Medina mosque all his life just to preach the Koran, we would have followed his example. Instead he began his mission in Mecca with a struggle. His struggle in Medina was different from his struggle in Mecca. In Medina he began an armed struggle and established a government. He then sent missionaries and representatives everywhere, as far as he could. He brought the glad tidings that we are going to conquer the entire world and destroy everybody. He said: We are going to destroy the Roman Empire, Persia, and others. By destroying them, he meant eliminating their religious rituals. In other words, they were worshipping idols or fire and he wanted to eliminate this. The Muslim conquerers revived those regions. During his short life the noble prophet revived mankind. Muslims should follow his example. They should say: We should do what our prophet did. He set up a government, we should do the same. He participated in various wars, we should do the same. He defended Islam, we should also defend it.

Therefore, if we are the followers of this noble prophet, if we are the followers of the holy imams, we should follow their example. What did they do during their lives? Did they just sit and issue religious instructions? If they had limited their achievements to preaching alone, why were they persecuted, imprisoned, expelled, isolated, and killed by the arrogant? Despite all these restrictions, you see the extent of the popularity of jurisprudence, and you have not seen its full extent yet. We owe all this to the book of sayings. May Almighty God save us from the evil of the arrogant [crowd shouts "amen"].

May He awaken the Iranian nation, other nations, and all Muslims so that they can rub the nose of the arrogant into the dirt. May He disgrace the arrogant, as He has done so up to now. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you all.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Arab Summit

LD121210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued a statement today on the futile efforts of the reactionary Arab countries at the Amman meeting.

This statement says: The Islamic Republic of Iran regards the defeated and vain efforts of the Arab reactionary heads at the Jordan meeting to be in line with the aggressive policies of the U.S. ruling junta as well as with its guidance to the said meeting, and the Islamic Republic of Iran will deliver a suitable and steadfast response to the threats of the U.S. Administration and its dependents in the region.

The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically declares that the United States and the reactionary heads, who despite the views of the progressive and realistic Arab states continue to decide to sanction the past and present deeds of the corrupt regime of Saddam, must know that their sanction will yield no result other than the expansion of the adventurism and warmongering of the moribund Iraqi regime. As a result responsibility for all future events in the region rests on their shoulders.

The Islamic Republic of Iran regards it as a cause for disgrace and shame for the dependent governments who, having forgotten the sacred aspirations of Palestine and the anti-Zionist struggles which have now engulfed the occupied lands of Palestine and Lebanon, are trying in reality to embark on peace and compromise with the regime occupying Jerusalem and to betray the sacred aspiration of Palestine through opposition and enmity to the Islamic Republic of Iran and to the revolutionary movement of the region's Muslims.

As part of this trend the Islamic Republic of Iran regards that the welcome extended by the Arab reactionaries to Camp David and to the regime committed to it, that is Egypt, is in reality a step toward surrendering the Islamic lands to the United States and the Zionist regime. Thus it declares that just as the traitor Al-Sadat received his punishment for having signed this bondage-creating agreement, undoubtedly they also will not benefit from the extension of Camp David, the domination of the Zionist regime in the region, and the limitation of anti-Zionist struggles in the region.

The Islamic Republic of Iran also declares to those who do not shirk from any crime against pilgrims to the holy house of God and against the sanctity of the divine sanctuary as well as to those who legitimize Camp David in order to prepare for the domination of the regime occupying Jerusalem over Islamic sacred sites as well as destruction of these places: How can they call themselves custodians of the holy mosques and speak of their responsibility for the maintenance and administration of Muslim holy shrines.

The statement concludes by saying that the nation and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all the enemies' plots and threats, are determined to continue their defensive war until the aggressor is punished, that is the aggressor regime ruling Baghdad, and until they attain their just rights.

Musavi on Summit Results

LD120854 Tehran IRNA in English 0815 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Kerman, Nov. 12, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Thursday that the Amman Arab summit conference marked another defeat for Arabs because its decisions had been dictated by the U.S.

Speaking at a session of the Administrative Council of Kerman Province, Musavi noted that the summit's revolution will provoke committed Muslims in Arab countries and will make them to stand against their reactionary rulers.

The resolution, the prime minister said, by supporting the "traitor regime of Egypt" has in fact backed the Zionist regime.

Musavi reiterated that the Iraqi-imposed war will be continued until complete suppression of the aggressor, adding that the Iranian people are determined to do so.

Referring to imposition of economic sanctions on Iran, the prime minister assured that the nation will stand even more difficult conditions and such moves cannot have the least effect on the already announced conditions of Iran for ending the war.

During the session, also attended by premier's executive deputy Hamid Mirzadeh, economic, industrial and agricultural issues of the province were discussed.

Tehran Comments on 'Defeated' Amman Summit

LD102246 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The extraordinary conference of some of the ringleaders and shaykhs as well as kings who are members of the Arab League was held yesterday under the chairmanship of King Husayn under tight security measures in Amman, the city which witnessed the massacre of thousands of Palestinians in the tragedy of Black September.

In the opening session of this conference King Husayn delivered a speech, and, as it was expected, he (?warned) of the issue of the war imposed on the Islamic revolution by Iraq and claimed that the continuation of this war has endangered the Arab and regional national security as well as the world peace. He then (?pretended) to refer to the Palestine issue and the sufferings of the Palestinian people throughout the years of occupation of their land. Evidently this allusion to the Palestine issue is made within the framework of the former agreement in that [words indistinct] some of the heads of Arab states who had protested at making the Iran-Iraq war as the focal issue to participate in the discussion. And it is a concession for winning their confidence.

At any rate, the decisions which this defeated conference will take, irrespective of their nature, will not have any impact on the trend of the events in the region, for the majority of those participating in this conference does not constitute the lawful and religious representatives of their own nations and they are neither authorized by their nations nor qualified to adopt decisions which are insulting to the prestige of the Arab and Muslims and to chair the body of the Islamic and Arab world with their bayonet of imperialism and Zionism.

The conference by King Husayn and his clique is being held under the circumstances where the world of Islam is celebrating the week of unity, Islamic solidarity, and closeness for confrontation with the enemies of our religion, henceforth, our entity, whereas this conference has done its best to sow the seeds of discord [word indistinct] and separation between the Arabs and other Muslims.

The atmosphere ruling over this conference has been concentrated on the question of return of the Egyptian regime to the fold of the Arabs and putting into oblivion of the Palestine issue, which is the main problem in addition to the Iran-Iraq war. What this conference has tried to achieve is to ignore most of the vital issues faced by the Arab nations, in particular, and the Islamic ummah in general. Apparently, their majesties and the occupiers of the presidential positions have forgotten that the Egyptian regime still insists on its commitments toward the Camp David accord and the humiliating peace settlement with the Zionist enemy.

They have also forgotten that they themselves had taken decisions in the previous conferences to continue to boycott and isolate the Egyptian regime as long as it adheres to those agreements.

If the efforts being made by those participating in the Amman conference are true, and their intentions are sincere, which are not, in that event they have to deal with those issues for whose just and immediate solution Muslims and Arabs are waiting. In this connection, apart from the main issue of Palestine, and adoption of necessary decisions aimed at liberating Palestine from the filth of the Zionist occupation, the tragedy of Lebanon and the fratricide between the Lebanese people and the Palestinians for whom a group of participants in this conference are showing sympathy and are pitting a party against another party, are before them.

If this conference is really an Arab aspect, and if it was to speak on behalf of various nations, it must put an end to this fratricide and must direct the guns at the common enemy which has spread across Palestine. And if there is any good intention behind this matter, then those present in this conference must endeavor to pay their attention to the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip to attach significance to the comprehensive and continued popular uprising in these regions and to adopt decisions of supporting and reinforcing this popular uprising. If it is truly an Arab conference it has to challenge the hostile and colonialist war imposed upon the Islamic revolution from a just [word indistinct] stand and not with an ethnic and tribal shortsightedness, and to bravely decide to identify the aggressor to expel him from the conference hall and to condemn him as a war criminal and as the one who started the war.

In the meantime, if the conference intends to honestly adopt any sense, it has to deal with the issue of the Western Sahara which has entangled in a liberation war against King Hassan's domination.

The chairman of the conference, in line with the gang of the reactionaries, has forgotten that the Persian Gulf, which involves Islamic and Arab interests, has been subjected to threats these days, not by the Islamic revolution, which is the ally of the Arabs and Muslims, but by the American and NATO naval fleets which have come to the Islamic regions at the invitation of some of the participants in the Amman conference.

Apart from what has been mentioned, what harms the conscience of the honest Arabs, and those interested in the security and tranquillity of their country, is the survival of King Husayn and his associates at the center of power and decision-making who in themselves hold major obstacles on the way of the materialization of the aspirations of the Arab and Islamic nations.

AP Cited on Chemical Tanker Attack in Gulf

LD111115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] According to an AP report, marine salvage officials have reported that this morning a Japanese tanker, under a Panamanian flag, was attacked at the southern end of the Persian Gulf. According to this report, the 12,964 tonne chemical tanker, *Liquid Bulk Explorer*, was attacked near the Arab shaykhdom of Umm al-Quwayn at 0630 GMT. According to these sources, as a result of this attack there was a small fire on board, but the crew managed to extinguish it. It is not clear whether the tanker was empty at the time of the attack or whether it was carrying chemical products.

Musavi: U.S. Fleet 'Received Blows' in Gulf

LD120952 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Kerman, Nov. 12, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Wednesday that the Islamic revolution of Iran has emerged with the objective to uproot U.S. aggressions and convey message of Islam to the awakened people. Therefore, he added, it is natural for the revolution to have enemies and bear pressures.

Addressing a large group of people at Imam's Mosque of the city, Musavi stressed the uncompromising stance of Islam vis-a-vis oppressors and noted that because Islam does not adhere to the policy of slavery, it could not reconcile with the imperialists.

He referred to the Iraqi-imposed war as a plot hatched by imperialism against the revolution and stressed that attempts to impose an ignominous peace on Iran were aimed at damaging its revolution.

On U.S. military expedition to the Persian Gulf, Musavi noted that since the entry of its fleets to the regional waters the United States has received blows from the Islamic Republic.

Outlining political moves at international bodies against the Islamic revolution, the prime minister stressed that Iran will not forego its condition for the punishment of the aggressor.

He termed firm determination of Iranian people a key to the success of Iran's stand at international circles and a cause for repeated U.S. defeats.

The prime minister accompanied by Minister of Culture and Higher Education Mohammad Farhadi and PTT [Post, Telegraph, and Telephone] Minister Mohammad Gharazi also opened the PH.D. course in mathematics at Martyr Bahonar University of Kerman Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Musavi said that pressures imposed by international arrogance on Iran in the post-revolution era, flourished people's initiation especially at universities.

Weinberger Resignation Seen as Policy Defeat

LD110640 Tehran IRNA in English 0624 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Kerman, Nov. 11, IRNA—Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic and International Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani here Tuesday termed resignation of former U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger as a proof to the defeat of U.S. military policy in the Persian Gulf.

Speaking to IRNA here, Larijani stressed that U.S. by creating tension in the region has so far gained nothing. He noted that following stationing of U.S. military forces in the Persian Gulf the region has become less secure for free navigation.

The Foreign Ministry official reiterated that the Iraqi imposed war will not end unless the aggressor is punished adding that as long as the war-mongering Iraqi regime is in power the region will not enjoy peace.

He stressed that security of the Persian Gulf should be maintained by regional states. Iraq's use of air space of certain littoral states gives Iran the right to punish the country which provides the Baghdad regime with such facilities, he added.

"Therefore", he added "we advise these countries not to put their facilities at the disposal of the Iraqi regime. They would better remain neutral in the war."

Musavi Chairs 11 Nov Cabinet Session

LD111747 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 11, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi chaired the cabinet session here today where major domestic and regional issues were discussed.

Minister of Education Kazim Akrami presented a report on the plan to provide his ministry with its needed teaching cadre and also discussed the welfare issues of the ministry's employees.

The cabinet emphasized that the issue of education does not concern the Ministry of Education alone, but that the whole government and people's resources should be mobilized for this important issue.

In today's session Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi briefed the cabinet on the results of his recent visit to Algeria. Nabavi described the economic and cultural agreements between Tehran and Algeria as 'positive' and said that the two sides stressed on the need to expand bilateral ties.

Later, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati reported to the cabinet on his recent visit to Zimbabwe and Ethiopia where Iran's stance towards the Persian Gulf tension and issues concerning non-aligned countries were discussed.

The cabinet also heard a report by Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone Mohammad Ghazari on the recently concluded Geneva telecom international fair in Geneva.

Montazeri Addresses Qom Gathering on Islam

LD101519 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpts] At the end of the Islamic Unity Conference, foreign ulema, dignitaries and guests taking part in the conference, Iraqi immigrant ulema, and a number of

Army and Guards Corps brothers and members of the Kordestan Sunni parents-teachers' association yesterday met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom. [passage omitted]

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri stressed: If we compare the present situation facing Muslims with the remarks made by Imam 'Ali, peace be upon him, we would see that if Muslims were true followers of the Koran, had obeyed the Koran's commands and instructions, and had made the Koran a model for their lifestyles, they would not be as they are today. For today, their culture, politics, economy, and everything else is in the hands of foreigners, world blasphemy, and their puppets. Today, a number of mercenary and traitor leaders such as Saddam, King Hassan, King Husayn, and their like are ruling Muslims and are holding meetings and conferences to legitimize Israel. Today, regional sheykhs have allowed the East and West to enter the Persian Gulf to fight Islam and the Islamic revolution of Iran and to fortify the traitor Saddam. And today, a person such as Fahd, who does not believe in the Koran but like Mohammad Reza Shah falsely pretends to do so and prints the Koran, takes photographs with the queen and the queen mother in England while wearing a crucifix, laughs at everything sacred to Islam and Muslims, and calls himself the custodian of the two holy mosques. However, he is really a servant of the intersts of Britain, not the two shrines. A person who desecrates God's sacred shrine in that way attacks God's guests and martyrs them. If Muslims had truly acted in accordance with the Koran, such persons could not rule over what they hold sacred. [passage omitted]

While praising and thanking the Iranian and foreign officials who organized the Unity Week ceremonies, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri pointed out: Following the bloody Mecca incident, which was perpetrated by the House of Al Sa'ud, some people thought that the issue was a Shi'ite-Sunni clash; many of the Mecca martyrs were Sunnis. One should know that the House of Al Sa'ud is neither Shi'ite nor Sunni. They do not believe in Islam. The House of Al Sa'ud was a tree planted by the British for their own colonialist purposes, which today is being utulized by the United States. [passage omitted]

Urges Defense of Revolution

LD111744 Tehran IRNA in English 1657 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Nov. 11, IRNA—The future leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri called on the Iranian people Tuesday to be prepared for defending the Islamic revolution against the enemies of Islam.

Ayatollah Montazeri said that enemies of the Islamic revolution, who had imposed the war on Iran, have joined hands again in a bid to maintain Iraq's Saddam (Husayn) in power. The revered ayatollah made the remarks in a speech to a mixed gathering of relatives of martyrs, POWs, those missing in action, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards, volunteer forces, civil servants and workers from various cities, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Prophet Mohammad (SAW).

The future leader of the Islamic revolution said "We have no other alternative but to be fully prepared and weather all difficulties in order to achieve victory." He also described threats of big powers against the Islamic Revolution as 'empty'.

The ayatollah said that if the Iranian people maintain their unity they will emerge victorious.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Warplanes Bomb Khuzestan

LD101702 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 9, IRNA—Iraqi warplanes bombed a non-military unit in Khuzestan Province about midday Tuesday.

Some damage was inflicted on the unit with no report yet of possible casualties.

Communique No 3,016

LD101712 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 10, IRNA—Iranian naval forces checked an Iraqi boat near the Khawr-Nabdallah waterway Monday, in addition to shelling Iraqi Al-'Amayah platform. Some losses were inflicted on the platform, the 3016th communique of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said here today.

The communique said artillery and tank fire of the Muslim forces on Iraqi positions in the northwestern and southern fronts inflicted considerable losses on the armoured pieces and batteries of the enemy killing a number of Iraqi troops.

In the northwestern fronts 26 Iranian patrol units successfully carried out their missions, all returning safely to bases. An Iranian reconaissance unit also seized several weapons from the enemy and transferred them to their positions.

Iraqi engineering activities were halted in Sar Dasht operational theater by Iranian combatants who also inflicted heavy casualties and losses on the enemy by their artillery fire in operational regions east of Basra.

At least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five gun emplacements, a command jeep and a mortar launcher of theirs were set afire as enemy positions came under artillery fire of Iranian Gendarmerie forces Monday, the communique concluded.

IRGC Shells Iraqi Targets

LD111146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Thanks to the careful observation and intensive artillery fire of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps over the past 2 days, three artillery battalions and several logistical vehicles of the Zionist enemy were pounded along the Chuwartah-Karizah axis in Iraq and at least five artillery units and several vehicles of the Iraqi forces were destroyed. Also, over the past 2 days, the cement factory of Sarchinar, west of Sulaymaniyah, became the target of the artillery fire of the brave warriors of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The military headquarters of the Iraqi Ba'thist Army in this factory [as heard] was destroyed.

As a result of this fire, 15 enemy vehicles were set ablaze and more than 50 Iraqi troops were killed.

Kurds Ambush Iraqi Troops

LD111211 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Ramadan Headquarters, the center for the irregular warfare of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, reports that in a series of ambush operations on the Surdash-Sulaymaniyah road in Iraq over the past 2 days, the fighting Kurdish Peshmerga killed 10 troops of the Iraqi regime and captured 3 Iraqi NCO's. In these operations one enemy vehicle was set on fire. Another vehicle and a quantity of weapons and ammunitions were also captured by the militant Iraqi Peshmerga.

The Iraqi fighters attacked one Iraqi vehicle carrying Iraqi mercenaries on the (Guyeh)-Kirkuk axis in an ambush operation and killed three of them. They also captured the commander of the regional Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries in that region, one vehicle, and a quantity of weapons and ammunition.

Communique No 3,017

LD111612 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 11, IRNA—Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched four cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain of their cargo and destination, said a military communique here Wednesday.

The 3017th Joint Staff communique said that Iraqi troops suffered considerable casualties and losses and vast parts of their positions were destroyed throughout the battlefields in artillery duels with Iranian combatants Tuesday.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shahr, western sector, where Iraqi forces sustained heavy losses in men and equipment.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Tuesday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting ablaze 10 gun emplacements and a heavy vehicle of theirs.

In Bajliyah, Khushk and Bubiyan, southern sector, activities of Iraqi tanks were suppressed by Iranian artillery fire Tuesday.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi engineering units from fortifying their positions or setting up obstacles such as canals or barbed wire fences in Sharhani, Bajliyah, Helaleh and Nahr 'Anbar, southern and western sectors, Tuesday.

An Iraqi patrol convoy attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in a northwestern theater, Tuesday sustained several casualties and was forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire.

Movement of Iraqi armoured units was checked in Qasr-e Shirin and Zobeydeh, western and southern fronts, Tuesday, concluded the communique.

Iraq Bombs 'Nonmilitary' Target

LD111634 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 11 IRNA—Intruding Iraqi planes bombed a non-military point in Khuzestan Province around noon today.

One civilian was martyred and seven others were wounded in the attack. Some of the wounded are reported to be in critical condition.

Naval Forces Down Plane

LD111740 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 11, IRNA—The anti-aircraft fire of Iranian naval forces shot down an Iraqi warplane and forced another to flee over a southern Iranian island at 19:20 hours local time (15:50 GMT) Tuesday, said a Joint Staff Communique here Wednesday.

The communique said that the wreckage of the downed Iraqi plane was found later, but there is yet no report on the fate of its pilot.

Kurds Repel Iraqi Attack

LD121131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] The efforts of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces to recapture Qara Dagh heights in Sulaymaniyah Province in Iraq were foiled as a result of the brave resistance of the Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga. According to the report from Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, enemy forces launched an attack with battalions along three axes in order to recapture those heights, but were forced to retreat after suffering heavy losses and casualties. In the course of repulsing this futile enemy attempt, more than 500 of the Iraqi Ba'thist army were killed or wounded, and a number of Iraqi officers and noncommissioned officers, including Lieutenant Hasan Hafi of the Iraqi 36th Division, were among the dead. A number of Iraqis, including First Lieutenant Talib Muhammad Uluf and six noncomissioned officers were captured by combative Iraqi Kurdish forces.

According to the same report, a large quantity of enemy weapons and equipment, including two tanks and two enemy ammunition vehicles, were set on fire and destroyed; and two mortars and a considerable quantity of other weapons and ammunition were captured by the Peshmerga of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Pakistan

Rawalpindi Hotel Bombed 12 Nov; 9 Wounded

BK121156 Hong Kong AFP in English 1148 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 12 (AFP)—A powerful bomb ripped through a residential hotel in Rawalpindi Thursday, wounding nine people, police said.

The bomb went off at about 1.45 p.m. (0845 GMT) in a room in the second floor of the Maqbool Hotel, which is in the crowded shopping centre of Rawalpindi, some 15 kilometers (nine miles) south of Islamabad.

The explosion badly damaged three rooms in the hotel, caused the ceiling of the hotel kitchen to collapse and shattered windows in nearby buildings, witnesses said. Three people were injured when the kitchen ceiling collapsed. Police said the others wounded were either inside the hotel or shoppers in the nearby market area.

Police believed the bomb was caused by a timed device placed inside the room, but said they had not arrested any suspects.

Four people died and more than a dozen were wounded in a blast in Rawalpindi's bus terminal in September. The authorities here blame a recent wave of bombings across the country on Afghan regime agents allegedly infiltrated to force Islamabad to change its stand against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Foreign Office Denies Involvement in Gulf

BK120912 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has said that Pakistanis are in no way involved in the Gulf situation and that Pakistan will not allow ships from the naval fleets of the various countries stationed in the Gulf to call at its ports. In fact, the spokesman added, Pakistan has expressed concern at the escalation in the Gulf conflict, which is part of Islamabad's general and comprehensive policy.

The spokesman noted that under an agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, some Armed Forces personnel have been deployed in Saudi Arabia for a stipulated period. These people will return home after stipulated period has expired. As long as a new agreement to this effect is not signed, the question of the deployment of their replacements will not arise.

Spokesman on Indian Remarks on Nuclear Program

BK111542 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Pakistan has expressed its determination to remain committed to its peaceful nuclear program and has again proposed an inspection of its installations on a bilateral or regional basis.

The determination and the proposal were expressed when a Foreign Office spokesman was asked today to comment on a statement made by Mr Natwar Singh, Indian minister of state for external affairs, in the Lok Sabha in which he said that India, according to him, is fully aware of the nonpeaceful dimension of Pakistan's nuclear program.

The spokesman affirmed that Pakistan has no program to manufacture nuclear weapons. Pakistan has a nuclear research program, which is very modest in nature. Pakistan's expression of readiness for the international inspection of its program is clear proof of the sincerity of our statement that our nuclear program is solely for peaceful purposes.

Answering a question about the Pakistani proposal to declare South Asia a nuclear free zone, the spokesman said that it is beyond comprehension that the country which has always opposed this is ahead of everyone in South Asia in the nuclear field.

Soviets Said Willing To Offer $4 Billion in Aid

BK111300 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 22 Oct 87 p 1

[By Ashraf Hashmi]

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 21—The Soviet Union is understood to have expressed its willingness to offer an aid package of more than four billion dollars to Pakistan for the implementation of some major development projects to be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

According to reliable sources, the financial assistance offered by the Soviet Union would be available for projects relating to the generation of energy, oil and gas exploration and those meant for balancing and modernising the Pakistan steel mills. Apart from these fields, the Soviet Union has also showed its willingness to provide assistance for other projects in the Seventh Five Year Plan for which the Pakistan Government may need such assistance.

The terms and conditions of the massive economic package indicated by the Soviet Union are much softer than the conditions attached to the US aid package of 4.2 billion dollars whose implementation has been suspended by the US Congress.

The maximum interest rate on the proposed Soviet economic assistance will not be more than two and a half per cent, with a grace period of twelve and a half years. Further, the repayment of this assistance would be in the shape of exports of goods from Pakistan.

The Soviet Ambassador in Islamabad, who has had a number of meetings with high level dignitaries, is reported to have reiterated his country's desire to live in peace with Pakistan and maintain and develop good neighbourly relations.

These meetings, which took place on the directive of Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo, are said to have yielded encouraging results, said an official source. If things move smoothly, a high level Soviet delegation would visit Pakistan to have detailed negotiations with the government for finalising the proposed Soviet assistance to this country, the source revealed.

Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo might himself visit Moscow to sign the Soviet aid package if the preliminary talks at the official level initiated recently conclude on a positive note and produce an agreed draft of future economic collaboration between the two nations.

Meantime the two countries are said to have decided to enlarge the current level of their mutual barter trade to 500 million dollars per annum. This would be a five fold increase in the present level of barter trade of 100 million dollars.

The Russians have shown interest in supplying textile and electronic machinery, power stations and transmission equipment to both the public and private sectors. A textile mill owners delegation which recently visited the Soviet Union has approached the government to allow the import of textile machinery from the Soviet Union as it was comparatively cheap and adjustable to their requirements.

The bilateral trade with the Soviet Union would be conducted on the basis of barter which would boost the export of Pakistani goods. Under the directive issue by the Prime Minister, trade with the socialist countries, which at present constitutes only seven per cent of the total trade of Pakistan, has to be enlarged to 20 or 25 per cent.

[Moscow in Hindi to India at 1130 GMT on 11 November 87 carries the following report in this regard: "Pakistani newspapers published a report a few days back that the Soviet Union is preparing to provide economic aid to Pakistan worth $4 billion. But Soviet economic institutions told a correspondent from the Soviet central newspaper *Moscow News* that this report is completely baseless. The Soviet newspaper reckoned in this connection that the Islamabad Government has faked closeness to Moscow to blackmail some quarters in Washington. These quarters express apprehensions that the Ziaul Haq government wants indigenous nuclear weapons. On the other hand, some Indian observers are of the opinion that by speaking about so-called Soviet aid, Pakistan wants to create mistrust between India and the Soviet Union."]

PRC Vice Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit

BK100416 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing has said that Pakistan and China share identical views on the Afghanistan problem and that China appreciates Pakistan's efforts for a settlement of this issue. In an interview with a Radio Pakistan correspondent at the airport on his arrival in Islamabad, he asserted that the solution to Afghanistan's problem lies in the early withdrawal of Soviet troops.

In reply to a question, he said that his current visit is aimed at exchanging views with Pakistani friends and further consolidating relations in various fields.

Responding to another question, the Chinese vice foreign minister affirmed that there will be no change in his country's policies despite changes in the CPC leadership.

Received by Foreign Secretary

BK101158 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] The visiting vice foreign minister of China, Mr Liu Shuqing, had talks with the foreign secretary in Islamabad today. They reviewed regional and international situation and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Their talks also centered on the Afghan situation, Kampuchean problem, and the developments in the Gulf.

Sri Lanka

Limited Tamil Autonomy Bill Protested

Agriculture Minister Resigns

BK111406 Hong Kong AFP in English 1350 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Colombo, Nov 11 (AFP)—A senior Sri Lankan minister resigned from the cabinet Wednesday in protest at a bill giving limited autonomy to the island's Tamil minority in line with a new Delhi-backed peace pact, a family member said.

A parliamentary official confirmed that Agriculture Minister Gamini Jayasuriya, a known critic of the July 29 Indo-Sri Lankan accord, had written to President Junius Jayewardene asking to be removed from the position.

Mr. Jayasuriya is the first minister of the ruling United National Party to resign from the cabinet over a policy issue since the government was elected in 1977, officials said.

The speaker of Parliament Tuesday turned down a request by Mr. Jayasuriya to speak on the bill, saying his party had not allocated time for him to do so.

Opposition MP's cheered the minister and offered to give up their allocated time for him to speak.

"I hope you will realise the embarassment it will cause the government if you speak on time given by the opposition," acting Speaker Norman Waidyaratne told Mr. Jayasuriya, who later withdrew.

Though out of the cabinet, Mr. Jayasuriya will retain his parliamentary seat.

The state-owned *Daily News* Tuesday said he was expected to vote against the bill at the end of the debate Thursday.

Thousands Demonstrate

BK121151 Hong Kong AFP in English 1145 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Colombo, Nov 12 (AFP)—Helicopters dropped teargas on demonstrators in north-eastern Sri Lanka Thursday as Parliament prepared to vote on a controversial bill giving greater autonomy to the island's Tamil minority, officials said.

First reports from Polonnaruwa, 75 miles (120 kilometres) from here, said thousands of students backed by the opponents of the Provincial Councils Bill had tried to march through the town, the officials said.

In a separate incident in central Kandy District, saboteurs torched a telecommunications exchange Thursday barely 24 hours after a bomb attack on a nearby microwave telecommunications antenna.

Under-graduates at Peradeniya University, near Kandy town, made a second attempt Thursday to lead a protest march but "steel-helmeted" armed troops blocked their path, police said.

Reports said the students used tar brushes to write anti-government slogans on state-owned buses outside their campus but police could not confirm this.

On Wednesday, police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at some 2,000 under-graduates in Kandy after a baton charge failed to break up their protest march. Officials said students at Colombo University were staging a sit-in protest but no violence was reported.

Security in and around the parliament building on a lake island here has been strengthened since Monday with troops armed with automatic weapons and backed by armoured cars and helicopters sealing off the approach road. As the debate on the bill began Tuesday, saboteurs ripped up railway tracks, bombed power pylons, attacked public utilities and felled trees across roads mainly in the south of the island.

Railway authorities said train services were back to normal Thursday after two days of attacks on tracks, derailing one train just south of Colombo on Tuesday.

Police said they had detained 98 men in connection with sporadic rioting in the province during the last three days.

An outlawed Sinhalese group, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) (Peoples' Liberation Organisation), has threatened MP's with death if they vote for the bill.

The legislation is part of a joint plan by Colombo and New Delhi, signed in July, aimed at ending four years of guerrilla war by Tamil militants seeking a separate homeland.

Colombo Bombing Death Toll Rises to 28

BK101131 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1100 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Colombo, Nov 10 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The death toll in last evening's time bomb explosion opposite the police station at Maradana, about three kilometres north of Colombo Fort, is now 28, senior superintendent of police in charge of the city crime detection bureau, Ignatus Canagaratnam told *Lanka Puwath* today. [passage omitted]

The police have received a detailed description of the driver of the Peugeot car in which the bomb an estimated of at least 50 kilos of gelignite exploded. [sentence as received]

The driver had requested two passers-by to help him push the car to the curb opposite the Maradana police station and beside the front of Sri Lanka's Leagiw Muslim Boys' Secondary School, Zalihira College, Colombo. [passage omitted]

The engine of the car was reported to be that of a Peugeot 504. Also, a wheel of the car had three nuts screwed on it, while the Peugeot 404, which was what it was earlier thought to be had four nuts on the wheels.

Police-JVP Battles Result in Deaths, Arrests

BK111034 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1015 GMT 11 Nov 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 11 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Five hardcore members of the proscribed political party JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] were killed in encounters with the police and over 60 of them arrested during the last 24 hours, police told *Lanka Puwath*.

Two members of the JVP's military wing were shot dead in the south in a gun battle with the Ambalantota police in the early hours of yesterday morning.

A gang of 25 terrorists were routed leaving 2 dead along with their weapons. Police told *Lanka Puwath* that following a tip off received of a clandestine meeting of insurgents to map out a strategy for a series of acts of subversion a squad of policemen lay in ambush about 25 insurgents armed with shot guns had arrived close to where the police lay in ambush. [sentence as received]

Police then opened fire on the subversives who retaliated by firing their shot guns.

The fight was short but fierce and the JVP'ers were routed.

After about ten minutes they had retreated to the nearby jungle.

Two of them were found dead and another who was found hiding in a thicket was taken into custody. One of the dead was clad in green army uniform and lay on the ground with a shot gun and a spent cartridge.

The other dead terrorist was clad in a sarong and barebodied with a locally made pistol and a live cartridge beside him.

Black flags the gang of terrorists had brought with them lay strewn all over the scene of battle.

Police Sub-inspector Wanigasekera who was wounded in the firefight with the terrorists was warded at the Hambantota hospital with gunshot injuries.

Meanwhile, police told *Lanka Puwath* that 64 hardcore members of the JVP were arrested.

Four other JVP'ers had been killed in an abortive attack, police said. They said that last night one hardcore JVP'er was shot dead when they attacked a police patrol at Hambantota. Three had also been killed while committing acts of subversion.

Police also had to open fire at Tissamaharama when a mob attacked a police vehicle. Three persons were later reported injured.

The Anuradhapura police arrested an armed gang of hardcore JVP'ers including six of them who had participated in the 1971 insurgency.

This gang had been responsible for felling trees and blocking roads in Horawapatana police area.

The arrests were made during a joint operation by Horawapatana, Kahatagasgiliya and Galenbindunuwewa police stations.

Police also seized four guns, cartridges, saws for cutting trees and khaki uniforms. A report was received at police headquarters that a brother in law of the JVP leader Rohana Wijeweera who has been in hiding since the July 1983 violence, was arrested on suspicion by the Moratuwa police.

An attempt by subversives to murder a grama sevaka (village headman) in Wattegama had failed.

Three subversives were arrested by the Peradeniya police. Meanwhile the JVP was reported to have murdered A M Ariyaratne of Udayaya, Kukirandela, More Moneragala District.

Ariyaratne is alleged to have been killed as the JVP suspected him of having given information to the authorities.

The victim had been in conversation with a friend when three armed subversives abducted him. They had taken him to a boutique owned by the victim.

At Gandara in the south about 40 subversives were about to set out on an orgy of violence, when they were encountered by a police patrol headed by the OIC [officer in charge] police of the area.

As the subversives did not heed a warning to disperse the police fired two rounds in the air, and the subversives fled.

Seven subversives have been arrested at Negombo in a joint Army-police operation.

Indian Army Kills 25 in Jaffna Area Mop-up

BK100905 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0855 GMT 10 Nov 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Twenty five (25) LTTE terrorists were killed yesterday as the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) was reported to have met with stiff resistance as they advanced on a new axis in Jaffna, while making a clearing up sweep in Vadamaradchchi area of the northern peninsula, official sources told *Lanka Puwath*.

They said that the new axis would link the western coastal town of Annacoddai with Vaddukoddai, a distance of about 15 kilometers to the north.

The Indian troops had met with stiff resistance in the new thrust up the peninsula, particularly at Suthumalai where LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran had addresssed a public meeting immediately after accepting the Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord, a pledge he reneged on a few days later.

The IPKF had, after overcoming the resistance at Suthumalai, marched through Manipai, Sandippaly and Pandathirrippu, 20 kilometers west of Jaffna town.

Fifteen LTTE terrorists were killed in this operation.

Indian troops clearing in an operation from east to west in Vadamaradchchi were reported to have overcome stiff LTTE resistance, killing 10 terrorists in battles.

Official sources also told *Lanka Puwath* that five Indian soldiers had been wounded by a landmine at Kodikkamam, about 25 kilometers south east of Jaffna town.

LTTE Offers To Release Captured Indians

BK111048 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 11 (AFP)—The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) has offered to turn over 18 captured Indian soldiers in Sri Lanka to a "neutral" Indian team.

In a telex sent to Indian newspapers and news agencies, the Tamil separatist group also demanded both an end to attacks on LTTE forces and "an amicable atmosphere for talks."

The message, signed by LTTE second-in-command G. Mahendrarajah, alias Mahathiya, was sent from the group's office in London. It was dated Monday and received late Tuesday.

It said the LTTE was prepared to hand over 18 "war prisoners" captured last month in northern Jaffna to a "neutral team" of Indian opposition parties and journalists.

"We do not cherish any special hatred against the Indian Army. They are on a war with us only on the orders of the Indian Government. For the last one month we are engaged with them in only a war of defence," Mr. Mahendrarajah said.

He also demanded that the Indian Army "should stop (attacking the LTTE), and announce a ceasefire and come forward to create an amicable atmosphere for talks."

Indian officials were not immediately available for comment.

Indian troops in Sri Lanka lauched an offensive on Jaffna, an LTTE stronghold, after the group repudiated a July 29 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending the Tamil separatist campaign.

India has said it would agree to a ceasefire if the LTTE renounced violence, surrendered its arms and accepted the peace pact.

Meanwhile, Tamil residents of Sri Lanka's north and east has appealed to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to order a ceasefire and "employ more peaceful and suitable political measures" to make the LTTE agree to the accord.

The plea, signed by leaders of the co-ordinating committee of the citizen committees and also received here from London, alleged that the offensive against the LTTE has resulted in the "imminent extermination of the Tamil people of Sri Lanka."

The message accused Indian troops of killing about 100 employees and patients of Jaffna's general hospital. It added that Jaffna town was without power and lighting fuel.

Meanwhile, India's top Tamil politician and the LTTE's one-time chief supporter in this country said Wednesday he would cooperate with New Delhi on measures to find a political solution to the Tamil problem.

The statement by Tamil Nadu State Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran came after a two-day meeting he had with LTTE leaders, including Sathasivan Krishnakumar, alias Kittu, the group's former Jaffna commander, now in Madras.